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(54) Title: BIOLOGICALLY ACTIVE REVERSE TRANSCRIPTASES

(57) Abstract

The invention provides modified reverse transcriptase polypeptides (Types I, II, and III), along with polynucleotides encoding such polypeptides, vectors containing such polynucleotides and host cells transformed with those polynucleotides. The modified RTs typically exhibit improved stability and/or improved solubility, relative to naturally occurring reverse transcriptases. The modified RTs are also found in a variety of forms, such as monomers as well as both homo- and hetero-multimers. The modified RTs may be used in any one or more of the methods known to benefit from reverse transcriptase activity, such as cDNA synthesis, and amplification techniques such as PCR and RAMP.

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BIOLOGICALLY ACTIVE REVERSE TRANSCRIPTASES

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

In general, the invention relates to the field of molecular biology. In particular, the invention relates to reverse transcriptases.

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The defining activity of a reverse transcriptase (RT) is its ability to synthesize a cDNA strand using an RNA template. This activity has been exploited in a wide variety of techniques fundamental to progress in the academic and commercial arenas. For example, reverse transcription is useful in the production of cDNA molecules and libraries. 10 sequence-specific probes having a variety of labels, sequencing techniques, and any of several amplification techniques. These amplification techniques include Reverse Transcription-Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR; Myers *et al.*, *Biochemistry* 30:7661-7666 (1991) and U.S. Patent Nos. 5,310,652 and 5,407,800), Nucleic Acid Sequence-Based Amplification (NASBA; Kiebitz *et al.*, *J. Virol. Methods* 35:273-286 (1991) and U.S. Patent Nos. 5,130,238 and 5,409,818), Self-Sustained Sequence 15 Replication (3SR; Guatelli *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. (USA)* 87:1874-1878, 1990) and Rapid Amplification (RAMP; PCT/US97/04170). Other amplification techniques take advantage, at least in part, of the DNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity of some RTs. Amplification techniques falling within this category include, e.g., the Polymerase Chain 20 Reaction (*i.e.*, PCR; Saiki *et al.*, *Science* 239:487-491 (1989) and U.S. Patent Nos. 4,683,195, 4,683,202 and 4,800,159), the Inverse Polymerase Chain Reaction, the Multiplex Polymerase Chain Reaction, Strand Displacement Amplification (*i.e.*, SDA; Walker *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. (USA)* 89:392-396 (1992), Walker *et al.*, *Nucl. Acids Res.* 20(7):1691-1696 (1992), and U.S. Patent Nos. 5,270,184, and 5,455,166), and 25 the Multiplex Strand Displacement Amplification (U.S. Patent No. 5,422,252 and 5,470,723).

Reverse transcriptases are found in a variety of retroviruses, or RNA tumor viruses. Techniques for producing RT from these native sources involve isolation of virus particles which contain about thirty RT molecules per virion. The RT is released from the virions 30 by lysis of the virion coat. Released native RTs may then be purified using conventional techniques. However, the procedure involved in the production of these viruses is labor-

intensive and costly (1,000 infected chicks produce 10-20 grams of virus, which is approximately 25,000-40,000 units/gram of virus). Additional problems with RT production from natural sources are the high natural mutation rates which, in part, result in restricted host ranges such as specific strains of chickens.

5 An alternative source of RTs is recombinant production, which in turn is dependent on an understanding of RT expression by the various retroviruses. In general terms, retroviruses bind to receptors on susceptible cells and insert the retroviral core particle into the cytoplasm of the host. Two major events occur in the life cycle of retroviruses. First, the single-stranded RNA genome is converted to double-stranded DNA by reverse
10 transcriptase. Second, this DNA copy is inserted into the genome of the host cell (Varmus, et al., *In Mobile DNA* (ed. Berg, et al.) pp 53-108, (1989), Washington D.C.: AM. Soc. Microbiol. 972 pp; Brown, Curr. Top. Microbiol. Immunol. 157: 19-48 (1990); Goff, Cancer Cells 2: 172-178 (1990a); Goff, J. Acquired Immune Defic. Syndr. 3:817-31
15 (1990b); Boeke, et al., Curr. Opin. Cell. Biol. 3: 502-507 (1991), an event typically mediated by a virally encoded integrase activity. Following integration, this proviral DNA can be transcribed by the host RNA polymerase to make viral RNA which is then transported back to the cytoplasm for synthesis of various viral proteins. Virus assembly takes place in the cytoplasm followed by release of budded viruses from the cell for another round of infection (Whitcomb, et al., Ann. Rev. Cell Biol. 8: 275-306 (1992)).
20 Any defect in the reverse transcription or integrase functions will result in a defective virus that cannot replicate. As an example, Avian Myeloblastosis Virus (*i.e.*, AMV) is a defective virus that requires a helper virus such as Myeloblastosis-Associated Virus (*i.e.*, MAV) for viral propagation.

Integrase ensures a stable association of viral and host DNAs. Integration is site-specific with respect to the viral DNA but is essentially random with respect to the host. This observation indicates that there is a DNA binding region in the integrase domain that is necessary for the binding of viral and host DNAs, in a manner independent of host sequence, during the integration process.

Although encoded by the cognate genes, the integrase domain is not found within mature MMLV-RT (*i.e.*, Moloney- Murine Leukemia Virus Reverse Transcriptase, a Type I RT) or mature HIV-RT (*i.e.*, Human Immunodeficiency Virus Reverse Transcriptase, a Type II RT). However, the integrase domain is found as an integral part of the mature avian RT (a Type III RT). The presence of this integral integrase domain, along with

thermostability, are two features of avian RTs that distinguish this class of RT from other RTs. Investigations of the integrase domain of avian RTs have revealed that it functions in DNA binding and in polymerization, or multimerization.

Some evidence for a DNA binding function comes from alignment of the deduced 5 amino acid sequences of retroviral integrases. Three potential functional domains have been identified. An N-terminal region is characterized by an HHCC (Histidine, Cysteine) zinc finger-like domain which stabilizes the structure of the integrase (approximately, amino acids 579-629 of SEQ ID NO:2). The central region of these integrases contains a catalytic domain which shares homology with bacterial transposases involved in the 10 breaking and joining of nucleic acid molecules (approximately, amino acids 630-807 of SEQ ID NO:2). This region has acidic amino acid residues which have been proposed to be involved in the binding of required metals (Mg^{++} or Mn^{++}). Khan *et al.*, Nucl. Acids Res. 19:851-860 (1991), reported DNA binding activity in this central region. The C-terminal region of these integrases is not conserved at the sequence level and its function 15 is unknown (approximately, amino acids 808-858 of SEQ ID NO:2). However, deletion analyses indicate that this region contains strong sequence-independent DNA binding activity as well.

The integrase polypeptide functions as a multimer, or polymer. The N-terminal zinc finger-like domain and the C-terminal deletion derivative have less tendency to 20 dimerize. Hickman *et al.*, J. Biol. Chem. 269:29,279-29,287 (1994). Sedimentation analyses suggest that integrase occurs as a mixture of monomers, dimers and tetramers.

The genome of the retroviruses codes for several genes, namely *gag*, *pol*, *env*, and the cellular oncogenes, *tat*, *ars/trs*, *nef*, *rev* etc. The *pol* gene codes for a polypeptide with reverse transcriptase (RT) activity. The RT enzyme has several activities, such as RNA-dependent DNA polymerase, DNA-dependent DNA polymerase, ribonuclease (RNase H), integrase, endonuclease and, possibly, protease activities. In the laboratory, reverse transcriptase is mainly used for its RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity, which elongates an oligonucleotide primer, such as a tRNA, annealed to a template RNA or DNA strand to synthesize a DNA strand that is complementary to the template strand (cDNA) 25 (Copeland, et al., J. of Virology 36: 115-119 (1980); Berger, et. al., Biochemistry 22: 2365-2372) (1983)).

Generally, there are three types of RT. Moloney-Murine Leukemia Virus (MMLV) is a monomeric RT, while HIV-RT and avian RTs are heterodimers. The HIV-RT

heterodimer consists of a 66 kDa β polypeptide and a 51 kDa α polypeptide. The avian RT heterodimer consists of a larger 95 kDa β polypeptide and a 63 kDa α polypeptide. The α polypeptides from HIV-RT and the avian RTs differ in that the HIV-RT α polypeptide lacks RNase H activity. The β polypeptide of HIV-RT and the β polypeptide of avian RTs differ in that the HIV-RT β polypeptide lacks the integrase activity of avian RT β polypeptides.

AMV-RT occurs in nature in multiple molecular forms, such as monomers, homodimers and heterodimers. However, the major active native form is a heterodimer of two structurally related polypeptide chains, an α subunit of 63 kDa and a β subunit of 95 kDa. These mature subunits are the products of post-translational processing of a precursor protein of 180 kDa (Gag+Pol). The 180 kDa protein is cleaved to a 95 kDa β subunit. The β subunit may be further cleaved to a 63 kDa α subunit and a 32 kDa endonuclease subunit. The α and β subunits have identical N-termini. (Roth, *et al.*, J. Biol. Chem. 260:9326-9335 (1985); Gerard, *et al.*, DNA 5: 271-279 (1986)).

Beyond a difference in form (monomer v. heterodimer), the avian RTs differ from MMLV-RT in other ways. In contrast to MMLV-RT, the avian reverse transcriptases exhibit high processivity and yield, as well as biological activity (*e.g.*, polynucleotide polymerase activity) over a wider range of temperatures extending up to at least 70°C. This ability to polymerize at higher temperatures is useful when working with RNA templates that have secondary structures. Additionally, this temperature stability has been exploited in amplification technologies such as NASBA and RAMP. Non-avian RTs, including those RTs having RNase H activity, have relatively low processivity and yield. For example, it has been estimated that approximately 50 times more MMLV RT is required than AMV-RT for cDNA synthesis.

In addition to Avian Myeloblastosis Virus, the avian retroviruses include Avian Sarcoma Leukosis Virus (ASLV), Rous Sarcoma Virus (RSV), Avian Sarcoma virus (ASV), Avian Tumor Virus (ATV) and their helper viruses such as MAV, Avian Sarcoma helper virus UR2AVRT, Rous-Associated Virus (RAV), and others. The homology among the avian reverse transcriptases at the DNA level is between 90-98% and, at the amino acid level, the homology is 95-100%.

Although the nucleotide sequences of many avian viruses are known (Schwartz *et al.*, Cell 32:853-869 (1983); see also Genbank Accession Nos. M24159, M37980, J02342,

J02021, and J02343), cloning and expression of an active and stable RT in commercially useful amounts has not been achieved.

When the DNA sequence of the *poi* gene of AMV and MAV were compared, approximately 111 bp from the 3' end of MAV was found to be replaced by host DNA sequences in AMV. Kan *et al.*, *Virology* 145: 323-329 (1985). The rest of the DNA coding for the RNA- and DNA-dependent DNA polymerase and RNase H activities was intact. This deletion involved the coding region for the integrase domain of the β polypeptide, which causes AMV to be defective in the propagation of the virus, thereby creating a requirement for helper virus MAV to produce infectious progeny virus. Hence, 10 the integrase domain is critical for producing infectious particles. Nevertheless, both the avian retroviruses and their helper viruses encode reverse transcriptases having RNA- and DNA-dependent polymerase and RNase H activities.

AMV Reverse Transcriptase (*i.e.*, AMV-RT) has been characterized and conditions for the synthesis of full-length cDNA products have been investigated. Berger *et al.*, 15 *Biochemistry* 22:2365-2372 (1983). However, the length and yield of cDNA produced by AMV-RT have reportedly been limited by either a nuclease integral to AMV-RT or associated contaminants. See, U.S. Patent No. 5,017,492. In efforts to maximize cDNA length and yield, attention has turned to MMLV-RT. MMLV-RT is a reverse transcriptase that is relatively thermosensitive and exhibits relatively low reverse transcriptase activity. 20 Efforts to improve the stability, and hence activity, of MMLV-RT reportedly met with some success in the form of C-terminal truncations of MMLV-RT. U.S. Patent No. 5,017,492; see also U.S. Patent Nos. 5,244,797, 5,405,776, and 5,668,005. Beyond these modifications, the '492 Patent reports that some C-terminal amino acid changes enhanced MMLV-RT activity, albeit at the cost of a reduction in processivity. Notwithstanding these 25 improvements, MMLV-RT is relatively thermosensitive and inefficient in catalyzing cDNA synthesis.

The avian RTs are structurally distinct from MMLV-RT. At the primary structure level, avian RT, *e.g.*, AMV-RT, shares no more than 28% amino acid sequence similarity to MMLV-RT (no more than 50% similarity at the polynucleotide level). Moreover, the 30 native AMV-RT is a heterodimer composed of a 63 kDa alpha peptide and a 95 kDa beta peptide while MMLV-RT is an 80 kDa monomer. Not surprisingly, these enzymes differ in their thermostability. The thermophilic AMV-RT is active over a broad temperature range extending, at least, to 70°C. Consequently, these avian RTs can often copy RNA

templates capable of forming relatively strong secondary structures. In contrast, MMLV-RT is a mesophilic enzyme. Also, relative to AMV-RT, approximately 50-fold more MMLV-RT is required for cDNA synthesis. Furthermore, AMV-RT and MMLV-RT differ in other properties such as processivity, metal co-factor requirements, error rate
5 (*i.e.*, rate of incorrect nucleotide incorporation), and tRNA primer preferences. These drawbacks in using MMLV-RT, in turn, increase the cost of effectively using MMLV-RT. Therefore, a need continues to exist in the art for a reverse transcriptase that can be produced economically and that exhibits one or more improvements in terms of processivity, stability, solubility, and thermal range, leading to increased lengths and yields
10 of polynucleotide products, while minimizing the cost of the reverse transcriptase.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to the discovery that reverse transcriptase polypeptides which have been modified, e.g., by altering existing integrase domains or by adding integrase domains that are modified themselves, are characterized by one or more improved properties.

5 which include increased activity, stability, and solubility, as well as increased ease and versatility in producing such polypeptides. The reverse transcriptase polypeptides of the invention may be derived from any source, including, but not limited to, Moloney-Murine Leukemia Virus (a Type I reverse transcriptase or RT), HIV (Type II RTs), and avian retroviruses (Type III RTs). One aspect of the invention is drawn to RT polypeptides that are

10 truncated internally and/or at their C-termini, yet retain RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity, the defining characteristic of reverse transcriptases. The truncated polypeptides may also have, and preferably do have, DNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity. Preferred polypeptides according to the invention exhibit RNase H activity. For those truncated polypeptides corresponding to full-length reverse transcriptases having an integral integrase

15 activity (e.g., avian retroviral RTs or modified Type I and Type II RTs that retain an integrase domain, unlike natural forms of these RTs), the truncation preferably extends into the integrase domain, effectively eliminating integrase activity from the truncated polypeptide. Such truncated polypeptides exhibit improvements in one or more of the following properties compared to their full-length counterparts: RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity,

20 expression levels, stability, and solubility. These improvements result in more cost-effective RTs for use in a wide variety of DNA synthesis, amplification and sequencing technologies.

The invention also provides a chimeric RT polypeptide resulting from the effective addition of a protein domain to the C-terminus of the truncated RT, resulting in a non-native chimeric polypeptide (*i.e.*, a polypeptide not found in nature). These protein domains provide

25 a DNA binding capability, a metal binding capability, a structure stabilizing capacity, or a polymerization (*i.e.*, multimerization) capability, and preferably several capabilities. With these added, or enhanced, capabilities, the chimeric polypeptides of the invention exhibit improvements in RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity, protein expression levels, protein stability, and/or protein solubility, with chimeric polypeptides of the invention frequently

30 showing improvement in all four properties. Preferred protein domains include a plurality of histidine residues (*i.e.*, His tags), and either the N-terminal domain (providing a DNA binding capacity, preferably resulting from a zinc finger domain) or the C-terminal domain (providing a polymerization domain) of the integrase region of a native RT.

More specifically, the invention provides reverse transcriptase polypeptide fragments (e.g., portions of full-length RT polypeptides), modified reverse transcriptase polypeptides, and analogs and variants thereof. Preferably, the polypeptides of the invention are thermostable avian RTs that have improved RNA- and DNA-dependent DNA polymerase activities, resulting in increased lengths and yields of synthesized polynucleotide products. Typically, the polypeptides of the invention lack the catalytic activity of the integrase domain provided by the C-terminal region of the full-length polypeptides (e.g., nucleotides 1719-2571 of SEQ ID NO 1 (Type III), nucleotides 2464-3012 of SEQ ID NO 40 (Type I), and nucleotides 1840-2708 of SEQ ID NO 42 (Type II)). The absence of catalytic activity provided by the integrase domain is expected to result in polypeptides that are more soluble and expressed at higher levels, hence, such polypeptides are more amenable to economical purification in commercially useful quantities. In addition to this benefit, the chimeric polypeptides of the invention are expected to facilitate nucleic acid binding or polymerization (homo-polymerization or hetero-polymerization), and preferably both activities, which contribute to the improved performance of the polypeptides. The improved RT performance, in turn, translates into improvements in the many techniques dependent on RT activity, such as cDNA production and cDNA library preparation as well as a variety of polynucleotide amplification and sequencing technologies. These amplification techniques include RT-PCR, NASBA, 3SR, and RAMP. The improved DNA-dependent DNA polymerase activities of the polypeptides of the invention are useful in, e.g., PCR, the Inverse Polymerase Chain Reaction, the Multiplex Polymerase Chain Reaction, SDA, and Multiplex SDA. The sequencing technologies include the many variations on the Sanger dideoxy sequencing technique.

One aspect of the invention is an isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide according to the invention. In general terms, the invention comprehends polynucleotides encoding polypeptides having RT activities, those polynucleotides typically lacking approximately 200-1,122 bp of the 3' ends of the corresponding native RT genes. For example, a full-length avian RT gene (*i.e.*, MAV *pol*) is 2,692 bp (SEQ ID NO:1) and the invention contemplates MAV-derived polynucleotides of approximately 1,570-2,492 bp in length. More generally, the polynucleotides of the invention may result from truncations to RT-encoding polynucleotides derived from any source, including: AMV, MAV, RSV, ASLV, ATV, MMLV and HIV. In particular, the invention contemplates an isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide having RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity, the polypeptide consisting of any one of the following sequences: an amino acid sequence

beginning at amino acid 1 and terminating at any one of amino acids 428 to 857 of SEQ ID NO:2; an amino acid sequence beginning at amino acid 1 and terminating at any one of amino acids 428 to 1,054 of SEQ ID NO:39; an amino acid sequence beginning at amino acid 1 and terminating at any one of amino acids 548 to 1,198 of SEQ ID NO:41;

5 an amino acid sequence beginning at amino acid 1 and terminating at any one of amino acids 428 to 901 of SEQ ID NO:43; and variants, analogs and fragments of any of the above-described polypeptides having RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity, the aforementioned polypeptides (*i.e.*, polypeptides and variants, analogs, and fragments thereof) optionally having an N-terminal methionine. An exemplary polynucleotide has

10 a sequence set forth in any one of SEQ ID NOs 1, 7, 9, 38, 40, and 42. The polynucleotides preferably comprise a start codon specifying methionine at the 5' end. Other truncated polynucleotides of the invention have internal deletions, preferably removing at least part of an integrase domain. For example, polynucleotides according to the invention comprise the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:40, with part or all of

15 nucleotides 2464-3012 deleted, or comprise the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:42, with part or all of nucleotides 1840-2708 deleted, or comprise the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, with part or all of nucleotides 1719-2571 deleted (*e.g.*, deletion of nucleotides 1860-2310, 1920-2310, or 1980-2310 of SEQ ID NO:1). Such polynucleotides encode polypeptides that lack an effective integrase activity in that the polypeptides do not promote

20 detectable polynucleotide integration.

Other polynucleotides according to the invention encode chimeric polypeptides, such polynucleotides comprising a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide having RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity and an adjacent polynucleotide encoding a terminal modification of that polypeptide, thereby encoding a chimeric polypeptide. Preferred polynucleotides encode a chimeric polypeptide having one or more amino acids attached to the C-terminus of a polypeptide having RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity. Such polynucleotides may contain one of the above-described coding regions fused (in frame) at its 3' end to a region encoding one or more amino acids. For example, the 3' end of a coding region may be fused to one or more codons for a charged amino acid such as histidine, lysine, arginine, aspartate, or glutamate. Alternatively, the 3' end of the coding region may be fused to a region encoding a polypeptide, preferably having four to fifty (*e.g.*, six) amino acids and preferably comprising a domain selected from the group consisting of a DNA binding domain, an RNA binding domain, a metal binding domain,

a polymerization domain, and a structure stabilizing domain. Examples of such domains include, but are not limited to, disulfide bond forming cysteine residues, a zinc finger domain, an acidic amino acid domain, and a basic amino acid domain, a bulky amino acid domain (e.g., W or W-H, single-letter amino acid identifications), a PPG domain, a GPRP 5 or a PRPG (*i.e.*, inverse GPRP) domain, a leucine zipper motif or domain, and an NS1 binding site, among others. Examples of suitable domains include, but are not limited to, the N terminal domain of the MAV-RT integrase region which provides a DNA binding domain and the C-terminal domain of the integrase region which provides a polymerization domain. Further, the polynucleotides encoding chimeric polypeptides having a plurality 10 of C-terminal amino acids may encode the same amino acid a number of times. Such polynucleotides may encode basic (e.g., Histidine) amino acids at the C-terminus. Also preferred are polynucleotides that have a stop codon (e.g., TAA, TAG, or TGA) at the 3' end of a coding region of a chimera according to the invention. An exemplary polynucleotide encoding a chimeric polypeptide has a sequence selected from the group 15 consisting of a sequence set forth in any one of SEQ ID NOs 11-19.

Still other polynucleotides of the invention encode a chimeric polypeptide having one or more amino acids attached to the N-terminus of a polypeptide having RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity. In addition, the invention contemplates polynucleotides that encode more than one modification, such as an N-terminal peptide 20 addition and a C-terminal peptide addition or a C-terminal peptide addition coupled to an internal deletion of at least part of an integrase domain.

The invention also provides a vector comprising any of the aforementioned polynucleotides. A preferred vector comprises a polynucleotide operably linked to a promoter.

25 Another aspect of the invention is directed to a host cell transformed with a polynucleotide of the invention, such as prokaryotic (e.g., *Escherichia coli*) or eukaryotic cells (e.g., insect cells). In a related aspect, the invention comprehends a method of transforming host cells comprising the following steps: introducing a vector according to the invention into a host cell; incubating the host cells; and identifying host cells containing 30 the vector, thereby identifying a transformed host cell.

Still another aspect of the invention is a method of producing an isolated reverse transcriptase polypeptide comprising the step of transforming a host cell with a vector as described above, incubating the host cell under conditions suitable for expression of a

polypeptide, and recovering the polypeptide, thereby producing an isolated reverse transcriptase polypeptide according to the invention.

In another aspect, the invention provides the polypeptides encoded by the polynucleotides described above. These polypeptides include polypeptide fragments (*e.g.*, 5 β RT fragments containing part, but not all, of the C-terminal integrase domain) and chimeric polypeptides, as described above, as well as variants and analogs thereof. In general terms, the invention contemplates all types of reverse transcriptase fragments and chimeras (and variants and analogs thereof) including, but not limited to, the three classes of RTs exemplified by MMLV-RT, HIV-1-RT, and avian RTs. Exemplary chimeric 10 polypeptides contain an N-terminal methionine or a C-terminal peptide providing useful functions (*e.g.*, expression enhancement, nucleic acid binding domains, metal binding domain, structure stabilizing domains, or polymer-forming domains). Other chimeric polypeptides according to the invention may result from modification of RTs derived from, *e.g.*, the following sources of Types I-III: ASLV, ATL, MMLV, HIV-1, and HIV-2. A 15 preferred addition to an RT is a C-terminal peptide comprising a plurality of amino acids such as basic amino acids, a nucleic acid binding domain, a metal binding domain, or a polymerization domain. Preferably, the C-terminal peptide provides more than one functionally significant domain. Also preferred is one or more C-terminal cysteine residues, which, at a minimum, provide a capacity to induce polypeptide homo-, or hetero-, 20 polymerization, such as dimerization. Typical polypeptides of the invention are relatively soluble and are capable of being expressed at high levels, resulting in relatively high levels of RT activity expected to facilitate economical purification.

Yet another aspect of the invention is an improvement in a method for copying a target nucleic acid by extending a target nucleic acid-bound primer, the improvement 25 comprising: contacting the target nucleic acid and primer with a polypeptide according to the present invention. The method preferably produces one or more copies of the target nucleic acid and the polypeptide may be a polymer. Any method for copying a target nucleic acid using a polymerase is comprehended by the invention, including, but not limited to, cDNA synthesis, Polymerase Chain Reaction, Polymerase Chain Reaction- 30 Reverse Transcription, Inverse Polymerase Chain Reaction, Multiplex Polymerase Chain Reaction, Strand Displacement Amplification, Multiplex Strand Displacement Amplification, Nucleic Acid Sequence-Based Amplification, Sequence-Specific Strand Replication and Rapid Amplification.

Another aspect of the invention is directed to improved methods for sequencing a target nucleic acid by extending a target nucleic acid-bound primer, the improvement comprising: contacting the target nucleic acid and primer with a polypeptide according to the present invention.

Yet another aspect of the invention is a kit for copying a target nucleic acid comprising one or more nucleotides and a polypeptide according to the invention. Preferred polypeptides include those polypeptides encoded by a polynucleotide having a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:40, SEQ ID NO:42 and polynucleotide derivatives thereof encoding C-terminal amino acids or polypeptides at their 3' ends.

Numerous other aspects and advantages of the present invention will be apparent upon consideration of the following drawing and detailed description.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 photographically depicts Western blot analysis of RT expression products of insect cells.

Fig. 2 illustrates recombinant RT fractionated on an 8% SDS-PAGE gel and stained with Coomassie Blue.

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Fig. 3 presents an autoradiograph of gel-fractionated cDNAs produced by an RT polypeptide according to the invention.

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Fig. 4 graphically presents temperature profiles for cDNA production using native and recombinant RTs (Fig. 4A), temperature profiles of nRT and rRT catalyzing RT-PCR (Fig. 4B), temperature profiles for RT-mediated RAMP (Fig. 4C), pH profiles for nRT and rRT in RT assays (Figs. 4D and 4E), magnesium ion profile for nRT and rRT in RT assays (Fig. 4F), and other divalent cation profiles for nRT and rRT in RT assays (Fig. 4G).

Fig. 5 illustrates the relative DNA-dependent DNA polymerase activities of native RT and recombinant RT.

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Fig. 6 shows a graphic comparison of the relative RNase activities of native RT and recombinant RT at 37°C (Fig. 6A); Fig. 6B shows a temperature profile for the RNase H activity of rRT.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides truncated reverse transcriptase polypeptides (*i.e.*, fragments), and analogs and variants thereof. Preferably, these polypeptides exhibit improved levels of RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity, frequently extending over 5 a wide range of temperatures up to 70°C and beyond. Also preferred are internally or terminally truncated polypeptides having sequences compatible with improved levels of expression. A preferred polypeptide according to the invention has a temperature optimum of 45°-55°C. Also preferred is a polypeptide consisting of an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:39, 10 SEQ ID NO:41, or SEQ ID NO:43. Some of these polypeptides correspond to C-terminal truncated forms of avian reverse transcriptases, such as the full-length Myelogenetic Avian Virus-Reverse Transcriptase (*i.e.*, MAV-RT). A preferred polypeptide of the invention lacks an effective integrase catalytic activity and is expressed at elevated levels, providing a source of soluble, and recoverable, polypeptide in active form. Exemplary integrase 15 domains include a Type I domain (nucleotides 2464-3012 of SEQ ID NO:40), a Type II domain (nucleotides 1840-2708 of SEQ ID NO:42) and a Type III domain ((nucleotides 1734-2571 of SEQ ID NO:1), any of which may be modified by internal or terminal deletion(s) or by substitution or chemical modification. Because integrase and RT function sequentially in the viral life cycle, it is possible that RT and integrase act in a complex. 20 Thus, without wishing to be bound by theory, the added functions of nucleic acid binding and polymerization provided by the integrase domain of avian RTs may result in increased processivity and superior performance of such RTs. Accordingly, non-native chimeric polypeptides of the invention further include the C-terminal addition of a polymerizing domain, such as a plurality of the same, or different, amino acids. Non-native chimeric 25 polypeptides are herein defined as polypeptides not found in nature. Thus, if the parts of the chimera are found in nature, they are not found in the same relationship as exists in the non-native chimeric polypeptide. Preferred C-terminal amino acid additions are basic amino acids, such as histidine, lysine and arginine. These preferred C-terminal additions may promote polymerization by, *e.g.*, metal chelation; the basic amino acids also may provide or enhance the nucleic acid binding capacity of the polypeptide. A preferred 30 number of C-terminal amino acid additions is 4-50, more preferably six amino acids. As

one alternative to a plurality of basic amino acids, one or more cysteine residues may be added to the C-terminus of the polypeptide. Other alternatives are C-terminal peptides of 4-50 amino acids having a polymerizing capacity or a DNA binding capacity, and preferably both capacities. In addition, to RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity, the 5 polypeptides may also have DNA-dependent DNA polymerase activities or RNase H activity.

The invention also comprehends polypeptide variants, which have substantially the same amino acid sequence as one of the polypeptides described above. "Substantially the same" means that the sequence of the polypeptide may be aligned with one of the sequences disclosed herein, using any of the approaches known in the art (*e.g.*, DNASIS, Hitachi Software Engineering America, Ltd., San Bruno, CA) such that the sequences are at least 90%, and preferably 95% or 98%, similar throughout the aligned region. For example, the invention contemplates the conservative substitution of asparagine for aspartate at any one or more of amino acid positions 450, 505, or 564 of SEQ ID NO:2 to produce variant 10 MAV-RT polypeptides lacking RNase H activity; that same substitution at any one or more of amino acid positions 497, 552, or 603 of SEQ ID NO:43 produces variants of HIV-RT polypeptides lacking RNase H activity. Other residues which may be changed by conservative substitution to generate RNase H⁻ variants of MAV-RT include amino acid positions 484, 549, and 572 of SEQ ID NO:2. More generally, the invention comprehends 15 polypeptides having substantially the same amino acid sequences, regardless of whether the differences involve conservative substitutions or not. For example, the residues identified above may be changed in a non-conservative manner. In addition, other residues known to be involved in RNase H activity may be altered by substitution or deletion. These residues include, but are not limited to, amino acids at positions 441-578 of SEQ ID NO:2 20 (AMV-RT and MAV-RT; see also, RSV-RT); positions 427-1,055 of SEQ ID NO:39 (HIV-2-RT); positions 625-911 of SEQ ID NO:41 (MMLV-RT); and positions 427-902 of SEQ ID NO:43 (HIV-1-RT). The invention also comprehends polypeptide analogs, 25 which are defined herein as polypeptides that either contain known equivalents for one or more of the conventional amino acids or have been derivatized in a manner understood in the art (*e.g.*, glycosylation, pegylation, phosphorylation), or both.

Another aspect of the invention is drawn to polynucleotides encoding the aforementioned polypeptides. A preferred polynucleotide consists of the sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID

NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:38, SLQ ID NO:40, or SEQ ID NO:42. Also contemplated by the invention are polynucleotides substantially the same as the polynucleotides having one of the above-
5 identified sequences. In the context of polynucleotides, "substantially the same" means that the polynucleotide has a sequence that is at least 90% homologous to one of the above-described polynucleotides.

Beyond the polynucleotides, the invention provides vectors containing at least one of these polynucleotides. Further, these vectors may be functional in prokaryotic cells,
10 eukaryotic cells, or both cell types. A preferred vector is a Baculovirus vector such as pBacPak9 (Clontech Inc. Palo Alto, CA). The invention also provides prokaryotic and eukaryotic host cells transformed with the above-identified polynucleotides. A preferred host cell is an SF9 insect cell transformed with a Baculovirus-based recombinant molecule
of the invention. Other insect cell lines, such as SF21 HighFive may also be used.

15 In another aspect, the invention provides methods of using the polynucleotides to produce RTs according to the invention. In particular, the polynucleotides are transformed into a prokaryotic or eukaryotic host cell under conditions that allow expression of the encoded RT polypeptide and, following an incubation period, the polypeptide is isolated.

In yet another aspect of the invention, methods of using the RT polypeptides are
20 provided. These methods realize the benefits of speed and yield from using highly active and thermostable RT polypeptides to copy target nucleic acids (e.g., cDNA synthesis, cDNA library construction), amplify, or sequence a target nucleic acid. Suitable amplification methodologies include, but are not limited to, PCR, RT-PCR, Inverse PCR, Multiplex PCR, SDA, Multiplex SDA, NASBA, 3SR, and RAMP. Suitable sequencing
25 methodologies include the original enzymatic sequencing technology disclosed by Sanger and co-workers, or any of the numerous variations of that technique that have been developed since that disclosure.

Various aspects of the invention are described in the following Examples, wherein Example 1 describes the cloning of a coding region encoding the full-length MAV-RT;
30 Example 2 describes the sequencing of the full-length MAV *pol* gene encoding reverse transcriptase; Example 3 discloses the cloning of selected polynucleotides according to the invention. Example 4 details the large-scale purification of the expressed recombinant RT; Example 5 describes SDS-PAGE and Western blot analyses of expressed proteins; Example

6 discloses an assay for RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity; Example 7 illustrates assays characterizing the native reverse transcriptase (nRT) and recombinant reverse transcriptase (rRT) in terms of optima for temperature, pH, MgCl₂, and other divalent cation concentrations; Example 8 discloses use of RTs in methods for copying and/or
5 amplifying target nucleic acids; Example 9 describes a DNA-dependent DNA polymerase assay used to characterize nRT and rRT; Example 10 reports a comparison of the RNase H activities of nRT and rRT; and Example 11 describes the cloning and expression of additional polynucleotides according to the invention.

Example 1

10 The *pol* gene of MAV, encoding the full-length RT precursor polypeptide, was cloned from pMAV, a pBR322 derivative containing the *pol*, *gag* and partial *env* gene of MAV. Data derived from a partial restriction map of the insert fragment of pMAV is shown in Table I. Based on the map data, the *pol* coding region, along with some 5' and 3' non-coding sequences, was excised and ligated into several prokaryotic and eukaryotic
15 vectors, as described below. Several recombinants were obtained from these vectors. Anti-RT monoclonal antibodies were used to analyze the expression of RT (see Example 5).

Table I

	Feature	Relative Position (bp)
20	<i>Eco</i> RI	69
	<i>Pst</i> I	200
	Start codon (<i>pol</i>)	253
	<i>Bgl</i> II	1988
	<i>Kpn</i> I	2748
25	Stop codon (<i>pol</i>)	2943
	<i>Xba</i> I	3013
	<i>Pst</i> I	3155

All non coding 5' (*i.e.*, upstream) nucleotides were removed to increase the expression of RT. Also, the open reading frame of the natural RT gene starts with an "ACT" (Thr), which is not a frequently used start codon in prokaryotes. The codon that is most frequently used is "ATG" (Met). "ATG" can serve as a start codon for efficient expression of RT in both prokaryotes and eukaryotes. Therefore, an "ATG" was added 5' to the natural "ACT" start codon in order to allow efficient expression of the protein in prokaryotes and eukaryotes (ATG ACT GTT GCG CTA CAT CTG GCT ATT CCG CTC AAA TGG AAG CCA AAC CAC ACG CCT GTG TGG ATT TTC CAG TGG CCC, etc., compare the sequences provided in SEQ ID NOS 2 and 3).

10 Construction of Prokaryotic Recombinant Vectors

pH contains a strong and tightly regulated lambda P_R promoter, a temperature sensitive λ cl repressor, an *E. coli* origin of replication, and Amp^r for selection. Because this vector encodes a temperature-sensitive repressor, a special *E.coli* strain was not required for regulation of expression.

15 The entire coding region of the MAV-RT (*EcoRI-XbaI* fragment, obtained by restriction digestion or PCR with suitable primer pairs), as characterized by the restriction map data of Table 1, was inserted into the multiple cloning site (MCS) of pH. Briefly, the vector was restricted with *EcoRI* and *Sall*. A 1:1 ratio of insert to vector was ligated in the presence of 1 mM ATP in ligation buffer (100 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.6, 10 mM MgCl₂, 20 mM DTT) and T4 DNA ligase using a convention protocol. Sambrook *et al.*, *in Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor NY (2d Ed. 1989). The ligation mix was incubated at 16°C for 2-4 hours. The ligated mix was transformed into electro-competent *E.coli* cells in 1 mm cuvettes using a BioRad electroporator at 1.8 KeV and 200 ohms. The transformed cells were plated on LB-ampicillin plates and single colonies were picked for overnight growth and mini-prep analyses. The recombinants were then confirmed by sequence analyses. Subsequently, the 5' noncoding regions of selected recombinants were removed by site-directed mutagenesis where appropriate. The pH vector containing the full-length RT gene was named pHSEM1 and the vector having the 5' non-coding region deleted was called pHSEMUE33 (*i.e.*, pHRT). The RT protein was expressed and analyzed by SDS-PAGE and RT assays were performed as described in Examples 5 and 6. Other prokaryotic vectors were also successfully used (*e.g.*, pET21d and pTZ18U, which have the T7 promoter and the lacZ promoter, respectively).

Construction of Eukaryotic Recombinant Transfer Vectors

A baculoviral expression system consisting of a transfer vector, a wild-type virus AcMNPV (*Autographa californica* nuclear polyhedrosis virus) or a derivative of AcMNPV (*i.e.*, BacPak6 (Clontech Inc.)) was used to obtain recombinant transfer vectors containing 5 the RT gene.

The AcMNPV genome is a double-stranded circular DNA of 134 kb. The size of the virus makes it difficult to directly manipulate the viral genome itself. Therefore, transfer vector pBacPak9 was used to generate recombinant molecules in accordance with the invention, such as pMBacRT, pBacMIBA, pBacMIKA, pBacMIBAHis and 10 pBacMIKAHis (see below). These recombinant molecules, containing exogenous and typically foreign RT coding regions, were used to introduce the sequence into the viral genome for expression and propagation. Vector pBacPak9 has a strong polyhedron promoter which is induced in insect cells late in the replication cycle of the virus. Hence, 15 foreign genes, including lethal genes, expressed with this late promoter are not toxic to the growing cell. The polyhedron gene is not necessary for the maintenance of the virus and was therefore replaced by the foreign gene (*i.e.*, MAV-RT *pol* gene).

The 2.81 kb *Pst*I fragment from pHSEM1, containing the full-length RT gene, was inserted into the *Pst*I site of the MCS of pBacPak9, and the recombinants were called pBpHPC3,4 (*i.e.*, pBacRT). Insertions of the gene were confirmed by miniprep analyses 20 and sequencing. The 5' non-coding region (see, SEQ ID NO:1) was removed by site-directed mutagenesis, as described in Sambrook *et al.*, (1989). The resulting recombinant vector was called pBpHPCM10,11,17 (*i.e.*, pMBacRT). In pMBacRT, the RT gene is flanked by viral DNA sequences of BacPak6, a derivative of AcMNPV. When pMBacRT 25 was introduced into insect cells along with BacPak6 DNA, the plasmid recombined with the BacPak6 DNA to yield recombinant, infectious progeny virus (M1-5 and M1-6, collectively M1-5.6) containing the RT gene.

In general, when SF9 tissue culture cells are infected with recombinant virus, the 30 viral particles entered the cells and the viral DNA is uncoated in the nucleus. Viral DNA replication occurs approximately 6-24 hours post-infection. During the late phase of the viral infection, approximately 48-72 hours after virus infection, all transcription is shut off except the genes having the polyhedron and p10 promoters, which are transcribed at very high levels. Hence, the RT gene under the control of the polyhedron promoter in the

recombinant virus was expressed at high levels late in the infection cycle. This recombinant AcMNPV was propagated in the budded form only.

Example 2

5 A primer walking sequencing strategy implementing Sanger's enzymatic sequencing technique was used to confirm the sequence of the MAV-RT *pol* gene. Sambrook *et al.*, (1989). The sequencing template was the insert of pHSEM1. Primers were designed to be homologous or complementary to an end of a previously determined sequence. These primers were then used to progressively extend the identification of *pol* gene sequence until the sequence of the entire coding region had been determined.

10 The polynucleotide sequence of the MAV-RT gene and the flanking sequences are set forth as SEQ ID NO:1. Amino acid sequences encoded thereby are set forth in SEQ ID NO:2. Of the 3,155 bp presented in SEQ ID NO:1, 2,498 bp codes for the beta fragment (nucleotides 253-2751 of SEQ ID NO: 1) of MAV-RT; the alpha fragment of MAV-RT is encoded by nucleotides 253-1990 of SEQ ID NO:1. These coding regions are 15 expected to encode polypeptides containing amino acids 1-895 of SEQ ID NO:2 (full-length RT; see also SEQ ID NO:3), amino acids 1-833 of SEQ ID NO:2 (β -like polypeptide; see also, SEQ ID NO:5) and amino acids 1-579 of SEQ ID NO:2 (α -like polypeptide; see also, residues 1-578 of SEQ ID NO:4). The β -like polypeptide is a fragment of the native MAV-RT β polypeptide. The α -like polypeptide is larger than the 20 native MAV-RT α polypeptide and smaller than the native MAV-RT β polypeptide, with the native α polypeptide sequence extending from the N-terminus of the α -like polypeptide. For brevity, the α -like and β -like polypeptides are referred to as the α and β polypeptides, respectively.

Example 3

25 As described in Example 1, plasmids pHSEM1 and pBacRT were constructed to contain 2.95 kb and 2.81 kb inserts, respectively. These fragments contained the entire reverse transcriptase gene along with 5' and 3' non-coding regions. The 5' non-coding region of each construct was then removed by site-directed mutagenesis, a well-known technique in the art. In particular, the primer FSDRT (5'-TGTACTAAGGAGGTG- 30 TTCATGACTGTTGCGCTACAT-3'; SEQ ID NO:20) was used with pHSEM1 as a template to generate pHRT (pHSEMUE33). Primer RSDBAC2 (5'-GCCAGATGT-

AGCGAACAGICATAATTATAGGTTTTTATTAC-3'; SEQ ID NO:21) was used with pBacRT as a template to generate pMBacRT (pBPHPC3M10, pBPHPC3M11, pBPHPC3M17, or, respectively, pMBac10, pMBac11 and pMBac17).

The full-length RT coding region was used as a starting material in constructing deletion derivatives that lacked the 3' end of the MAV-RT coding region to varying extents. Relative to the full-length gene (M1-5,6, see below), the 3' (C-terminal) deletion extending to the *Kpn*I site (MIKA) increased the RT expression level, as evidenced by SDS-PAGE. Relative to the full-length gene (M1-5,6), deletion of the region extending from the *Bgl*II site to the 3' terminus (MIBA) increased the RT expression level, activity and solubility, as evidenced by SDS-PAGE and activity assays (see below). Relative to the alpha fragment of MAV-RT, the beta fragment has an additional 254 amino acids at the C-terminus, which provides an integrase activity. This region of the polypeptide contributes to the insolubility of the polypeptide and reduces its recovery from cell extracts, as shown by the relative insolubility of a (+) integrase form of RT (e.g., the M1KA gene product, see below) compared to a (-) integrase form (e.g., the M1BA gene product). Because the integrase domain is only needed for the retroviral life cycle and not for the RNA- or DNA-dependent DNA polymerase activities, this region was deleted in MIBA (α fragment equivalent). Note that the α fragment of MIBA (amino acids 1-578 of SEQ ID NO:2) is larger than the naturally occurring α fragment of MAV-RT (amino acids 1-573 of SEQ ID NO:2). Without wishing to be bound by theory, this deletion was expected to result in an increase in the solubility, and hence recovery, of the protein.

Using the full-length RT recombinants, additional clones were constructed to express polypeptides having C-terminal deletions in order to increase the levels of expression and to stabilize the RT activity (RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity). Convenient restriction sites such as *Bgl* II (spanning nucleotides 1,986-1,991 of SEQ ID NO:1) and *Kpn*I (spanning nucleotides 2,745-2,750 of SEQ ID NO:1) were used to eliminate the 3' end of the coding region of the RT gene (see, Table I). The 3' deletion derivatives, encoding RT polypeptide fragments having C-terminal deletions, were obtained by *Bgl*II-*Pst*I or *Kpn*I-*Pst*I restrictions of pMBacRT and pHRT, respectively (30 (*Bgl*II and *Kpn*I sites in the MAV-RT coding region; *Pst*I site in the vector). Recombinant molecules containing the *Bgl* II-*Pst*I 3' terminal deletion were designated pBacMIBA and pHBRT (pH33 Δ BP6) and recombinant molecules containing the *Kpn*I-*Pst*I deletion were designated pBacMIKA and pHKRT (pH33 Δ KP5). The deletion derivatives pBacMIBA and

5 pBacMIKA had approximately 1.2 and 0.4 kb deletions from the 3' end of the full-length gene (see, SEQ ID NO:1), respectively. The fragment bounded at its 3' end by the *Bgl*/II site (SEQ ID NO:6) was used to express an alpha fragment equivalent of RT and the fragment bounded by the *Kpn*I site (SEQ ID NO:8) was used to express the beta fragment
10 equivalent of RT (the β fragment equivalent of M1KA contained amino acids 1-832 of SEQ ID NO:2; native MAV-RT β contains amino acids 1-858 of SEQ ID NO:2).

Miniprep and sequencing analyses were done to confirm the identities of the recombinant clones described above. Recombinant viruses obtained from co-transfection with virus BacPak6 and transfer vector pBacMIBA or pBacMIKA were called M1BA and
10 M1KA, respectively.

Recombinants encoding 3' terminal amino acid tags

Without wishing to be bound by theory, the constructs that deleted the integrase domain of RT, such as M1BA and pBacMIBA, were not expected to retain the DNA binding, structure stabilizing, and polymerization functions attributable to the integrase domain. To re-introduce these functions, without the deleterious impact on solubility and host cell viability associated with the native integrase domain, codons specifying amino acids (His) were added to the 3' end of the modified RT coding regions. The basic nature of the added amino acids may have been responsible for increased binding to the negatively charged nucleic acids, enhancing the stability of the polypeptides. The increased binding
20 may, in turn, have been responsible for the increase in activity found with the his-tagged RTs, relative to their untagged counterparts. In addition, the his tags may have contributed to the tendency of the his-tagged RTs of the invention to form polymers, perhaps through his mediated chelation of metal ions such as Ni⁺⁺. A his-tagged RT (MIBAHis) was found in homo-polymeric form (molecular weight greater than 200 kDa), as determined using
25 non denaturing PAGE and molecular sieve chromatography with Superose 12HR10/30 (separation range of 1-300 kDa; Pharmacia-Upjohn). Thus, the invention contemplates RT polypeptides lacking an effective integrase domain, but having the capacity to bind DNA and/or polymerize. These additional functionalities may be provided by adding, preferably at the C-terminus of the modified RT, such structures as known DNA binding domains,
30 zinc finger or zinc-finger-like domains, polymerization domains, acidic amino acids, basic amino acids, or one or more cysteines. Such modified RTs may be ultimately derived from avian or non-avian sources.

His-tag additions to the C-termini of the RT polypeptides were achieved by recombinant expression of coding regions fusing RT coding regions to His codons. In particular, the fusions were constructed by adding oligonucleotides containing 6 histidine codons at the 3' end of the RT gene using ligase, as in the case of the construction of 5 pBacMIKAhis, or by PCR amplification with oligonucleotides that specified 6 histidine codons, as in the case of the construction of pBacMIBAhis.

The construction of pBacMIKAhis was accomplished with oligonucleotides FNhis (SEQ ID NO:33) and RNhis (SEQ ID NO:34), each of which contained internal histidine codons and compatible *NotI* restriction sites at each end. Following their conventional 10 syntheses, the oligonucleotides were annealed and ligated to the 3' terminus of RT in pBacMIKA cut with *NotI*. For the construction of pBacMIBAhis or pBacMIKAhis using PCR, primers FRT (SEQ ID NO:22) and either M1BARSDhis (SEQ ID NO:23) or M1KARSDhis (SEQ ID NO:24) were used with pHSEM1 as the template. Blunt-ended and phosphorylated PCR products containing the 3' deletions and histidine tag-encoding 15 regions were inserted into the *SmaI* site in the MCS of pBacPak9. The his-tag derivatives of the transfer vectors were called pBacMIBAhis and pBacMIKAhis and the viruses obtained by co-transfection of SF9 cells with the aforementioned transfer vectors and BacPak6 were called M1BAhis ((-) integrase) and M1KAhis ((+) integrase), respectively. Introduction of the His codons led to increased activity of the encoded polypeptides in 20 eukaryotes, as measured by SDS-polyacrylamide gel electrophoretic analyses and RT assays (see below). As shown below, the his-tag additions increased the stability (perhaps by providing a DNA binding site), activity, polymerization capabilities and ease of purification of RTs such as M1BAhis.

The 5' end of the MAV *pol* gene was also modified. Beyond deletion of the 5' 25 non-coding sequence of *pol* (see the description of pHRT and pMBac10 above), the widely recognized Met initiation codon ("ATG") was introduced immediately upstream of the natural start codon (the Thr codon "ACT" at nucleotides 253-255 of SEQ ID NO:1) of the MAV *pol* gene.

In general, the above-described cloning strategy reflected efforts to eliminate the 30 integrase domain of avian RT and thereby avoid the insolubility and lethality problems associated with that protein domain. Deletion of 192 bp from the 3' terminus of the full-length MAV-RT gene (SEQ ID NO:1) by terminating the coding region at the *KpnI* site (Table I) produced the "MIKA" clone series. These clones coded for a β polypeptide that

is smaller than the naturally occurring β polypeptide. These clones exhibited enhanced RT expression and the expressed polypeptides exhibited enhanced activity levels (compare below, the expression of M1-5,6 [full-length] to M1KA [β polypeptide]). Larger deletions extending from the 3' end of the full-length MAV-RT gene were constructed using a 5 convenient *Bg*/II site to generate the M1BA clone series. These clones encoded an α subunit of RT that was larger than the naturally occurring α polypeptide. The M1BA clones exhibited increased expression and activity, in comparison to the expression and activity of full-length MAV-RT; moreover, M1BA was more soluble than naturally occurring MAV-RT.

10 The invention also contemplates polynucleotides and polypeptides resulting from a recognition that some advantageous properties of the integrase, e.g., DNA binding and polymerization, could be re-introduced into avian RTs without re-introducing the deleterious (*i.e.*, insolubility and lethality) characteristics of the avian RT integrase domain. One approach is to attach RT integrase domains or non-RT integrase domains 15 known in the art to the (-) integrase polypeptides or attach the coding regions of these domains to the polynucleotides encoding these (-) integrase polypeptides. Another approach is to add amino acid tags to the (-) integrase RT polypeptides (or corresponding codons to (-) integrase polynucleotides) as disclosed herein. A preferred tag is a basic amino acid tag such as a His tag. As disclosed below, a His tag was attached at the C- 20 terminus of an α polypeptide equivalent (M1BAhis). This clone exhibited relatively high levels of expression, activity and solubility. Thus, the invention provides avian RTs improved in terms of expression and activity levels, and in terms of solubility and ease of purification, while retaining the processivity and thermostability characteristic of avian RTs.

25 Accordingly, the invention contemplates the construction of analogous polynucleotides and recombinant molecules encoding RT polypeptides of unnatural length from other sources, such as MMLV, HIV, RSV, ASLV, ATV, and others. Further, the invention extends to polynucleotides encoding these RTs of modified length, or full length RTs, provided that the polynucleotides additionally encode polymerizing or nucleic acid 30 binding domains, and preferably both domains, at their 3' termini. Examples of polynucleotides encoding a non-avian RT of unnatural length are polynucleotides encoding an RT portion or fragment having the amino acid sequence set forth at any one of the following: positions 1-765 of SEQ ID NO:39 (an HIV-2 RT sequence), positions 1-800

of SEQ ID NO:41 (an MMLV-RT sequence), and positions 1-625 of SEQ ID NO:43 (an HIV-1 RT sequence). These polynucleotide sequences have some correspondence to the sequence of the polynucleotide encoding the MAV-derived MIBA polypeptide and are expected to function in a manner analogous to polynucleotides encoding MIBA. Of course, a polynucleotide encoding the full-length β polypeptide of HIV-2 (SEQ ID NO:38), or encoding equivalent polypeptides from MMLV or HIV-1 (SEQ ID NO:40 or SEQ ID NO:42, respectively), along with a 3' terminal sequence encoding a polymerizing and/or nucleic acid binding domain, are also contemplated by the invention.

With respect to polypeptides, the invention comprehends the polypeptides encoded by the above-described polynucleotides, as well as polypeptides that have a C-terminal polymerizing and/or nucleic acid binding domain that has been added by means other than expression. For example, an RT polypeptide having a Cys residue or a His residue attached at the C-terminus by chemical condensation falls within the scope of the present invention. In addition, effective elimination of an integrase domain, such as is found in avian RTs, may be effected by altering a suitable coding region by inserting, deleting, or substituting (transitions and/or transversions), one or more nucleotides. Thus, the invention contemplates RT polypeptides that are the same length as naturally occurring RT polypeptides. These RT polypeptides may have the same amino acid sequence as naturally occurring RTs, provided that the RTs of the invention have a polymerizing and/or nucleic acid binding domain at their C-termini. Alternatively, RTs of the same length as natural RTs may have sequences that differ from the natural RTs, thereby effectively eliminating integrase activity. The RTs of the invention may also be shorter, or longer, than naturally occurring RT polypeptides. The shorter RT polypeptides of the invention eliminate some, or all, of the C-terminal sequence of a naturally occurring RT which, in the case of avian RTs, contains the integrase domain. RTs of the invention that are longer than naturally occurring RT polypeptides contain the sequence of that naturally occurring RT and, in addition, sequence of an adjacent peptide region. Additionally, these polypeptides of unnatural length may have a polymerizing and/or nucleic acid binding domain added at their C-termini.

Example 4

The RT constructs described in Example 3 were transformed into prokaryotic and eukaryotic host cells and the expression of RT polypeptides was analyzed. A prokaryotic host cell, *Escherichia coli* DH5αF', was transformed with pHRT, pHBRT or pHKRT, 5 using a technique standard in the art. Cells subjected to the transformation protocol were plated on LB plates (10 g tryptone, 5 g yeast extract, 5 g NaCl, 1 ml of 1N NaOH, 1.5 g agar, ddH₂O in a total volume of 1 liter) containing 50 µg/ml ampicillin for selection of transformed host cells. Single colonies were picked, expanded in small culture (*i.e.*, 5 ml), episomal DNAs were rapidly isolated from an aliquot of cells, and the purified DNAs 10 were analyzed for the presence of a recombinant molecule of the expected size. Dideoxynucleotide-based sequencing of these DNAs confirmed that the first ATG (*i.e.*, the initiation codon) was in-frame with the remainder of the RT coding region.

Another aliquot of those small cultures containing cells transformed with pHRT, pHBRT, or pHKRT was used to inoculate flasks containing 10 ml of LB-ampicillin and 15 grown at 30°C until an OD₆₀₀ of 0.6 was reached. Flasks containing these cells were then quickly shifted to 42°C to de-repress the λP_R promoter and express the recombinant protein. After an hour at 42°C, cells were pelleted and analyzed for expression of protein by SDS-PAGE, Western blot analyses, and RT activity assays, as described below.

In general, about 10% of the expressed protein was recovered in soluble form and 20 90% of the expressed protein was found in inclusion bodies, as revealed by pelleting lysed cells at 12,000 x g for 5-15 minutes. RT activity was also found when expressing both the full-length and the deletion derivatives of the MAV *pol* coding region from other recombinant vectors, such as pTZ18U and pET12d, that contained similar insert fragments encoding full-length or C-terminally deleted MAV-RT.

A eukaryotic host cell suitable for use in practicing the invention is the Sf9 insect 25 cell. Several polynucleotides were separately introduced into Sf9 cells using the Baculoviral expression system. O'Reilly *et al.*, in *Baculovirus Expression Vectors: A Laboratory Manual*, Oxford University Press (1994). The polynucleotides (*i.e.*, pMBacRT, pBacMIBA, pBacMIBAHis, pBacMIKA, and pBacMIKAHis) were purified by 30 the standard alkaline lysis method, as described in Sambrook *et al.*, (1989). The DNA was then centrifuged through a CLROMA SPIN+TE-400 column (Clontech Laboratories, Inc.,

Palo Alto, CA.) at 500 x g for 7 minutes in a swinging bucket rotor. (HIN-SII centrifuge from ILC, Inc.) This purified DNA was then used to transform eukaryotic cells.

5 Sf9 insect host cells were prepared for transformation using an established procedure. The Sf9 cells from an exponentially growing cell culture were initially counted
using a hemocytometer and diluted to 5x10⁶ cells/ml of TNM-FH Insect Cell Medium (Product No. T-1032; Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, MO.) with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS) and antibiotics (50 units/ml nystatin, 50 units/ml penicillin, and 50 µg/ml of streptomycin). Subsequently, 1.5 ml of this culture was added to each well of several 12-well tissue-culture plates. The cells were allowed to attach to the plate for a period of 1
10 hour. The medium covering the cells was then removed and 2 ml of TNM-FH medium without serum was added. The serum-free medium was swirled over the cells and again the medium was removed. This process was repeated one more time to remove all traces of fetal bovine serum (*i.e.*, FBS) and antibiotics. The cells were then incubated in TNM-FH medium for 30 minutes while the transfection mixture was prepared.
15

The 50 µl transfection mixture contained 500 ng of DNA, 500 ng of *Bsu*36I-digested BacPak6 viral DNA, and ddH₂O. This mixture was gently mixed with 50 µl of transfection reagent (Clontech, Inc.) and incubated at room temperature for 15 minutes to allow the transfection reagent to form a complex with the DNA, as recommended by the supplier of the transfection reagent.

20 Medium covering the Sf9 cells was removed and 300-500 µl of TNM-FH medium was added to each well. To this medium, the transfection reagent-DNA mixture was added drop-wise while gently swirling the dish. The cells were then incubated at 27°C for 5 hours before adding 2 ml of TNM-FH medium containing 10% FBS and the antibiotics identified above. DNA-cell contact was continued at 27°C for 60-72 hours. Medium from
25 these plates was then collected and used as primary virus stocks.

Primary virus stocks were subsequently subjected to plaque purifications by standard methods, as described in King *et al.*, in *The Baculovirus Expression System: A Laboratory Guide* (eds. Chapman and Hall, N.Y. 1992), to produce clonal stocks. The clonal stocks were amplified using a 1:1 virus to insect cell ratio to produce large quantities
30 of recombinant viruses.

The viruses from the clonal stocks were used to infect insect cells and ultimately analyze RT expression in a eukaryotic environment. Based on the titer obtained from the plaque assays, an infection was set up using a ratio of 5 viruses per Sf9 cell. After 60

hours, the medium and cells were collected. The cells were pelleted, resuspended in cell lysis buffer (10 mM Tris HCl, pH 8.0, 50 mM NaCl, 5% glycerol, 0.5% Triton X-100, and protease inhibitors (50 µg/ml Benzamidine HCl, 0.1 mM 4-(2-aminoethyl)-benzenesulfonylfluoride, and 1 µg/ml pepstatin A)) and lysed by sonication. These samples were 5 subsequently subjected to SDS-PAGE, Western blot analyses, and RT activity assays.

For large-scale expression studies, Sf9 cells were initially grown in T25 tissue culture flasks under the conditions described above. Sf9 cells adhering to the T25 tissue culture flasks were gently dislodged and adapted to suspension cultures as described by King *et al.*, 1992. These suspension cultures were expanded in spinner flasks to a volume 10 of 1-3 liters. When the insect cells reached a density of 1x10⁶ cells per ml, they were infected with a concentrated stock of recombinant viruses at a ratio of 5:1 viruses per insect cell. A variation of a standard protocol was used to infect these cells. A large volume of amplified viral stock (MIBA, M1KA, M1BAHis, and M1KAHis, or M1-5.6) was concentrated using one-half volume of 40% PEG 8000 and one-sixth volume of 5 M NaCl. 15 Precipitated viruses were collected at 12,000 x g for 30 minutes using a Sorvall RC5C centrifuge (Dupont, Newtown, CT). The pelleted viruses were resuspended in 1x PBS (10 mM K₂PO₄, pH 7.5, and 150 mM NaCl) at 1/20 of the culture volume and stored at -20°C. Before infection, the viruses were filtered through a 0.2 µ filter.

After a 48 hour period of infection, 1 ml aliquots of infected cells were collected 20 for RT assays to monitor RT expression levels. Cells were harvested at the peak of RT expression (generally around 60 hours post-infection), as determined from previous trials. Cells were pelleted at 5,000 x g for 30 minutes and stored at -80°C.

Polypeptides expressed in insect cells were also characterized by SDS-PAGE and 25 Western blot analyses. Results of a Western blot assay using a mixture of anti-RT monoclonal antibodies 1D8, 2E10, 6F1, 4C4, 9H10 and 9C2 are shown in Fig. 1 (lane 1 prestained molecular weight markers of 123 kDa, 90 kDa, 64 kDa, 50 kDa, and 38 kDa, lane 2 native AMV-RT(nRT) (lane 2), lane 3 M1BAHis, and lane 4 M1KAHis. Further analysis 30 of the antigenic properties of M1BAHis and native RT revealed that monoclonal antibody 6F1 recognized native RT but failed to recognize the M1BAHis polypeptide. Thus, at least one epitope found on native RT is not found on M1BAHis, indicative of structural differences between the proteins.

The results further indicate that both M1BA and M1KA expressed ten-fold more 35 RT than M1-5.6, which encodes full-length RT. When cell pellets were assayed for RNA-

dependent DNA polymerase activity. M1BA was expressed at 10,000 units per liter of insect cell culture, whereas M1KA and M1-5, 6 were each expressed at 1,000 units per liter of insect cell culture. Though M1KA expressed as well as M1BA when analyzed on Western blots, active M1KA recovered from the cell pellet was ten-fold less than M1BA.

5 Most of the expressed M1KA remained insoluble in the pellet. Although the corresponding his-tagged proteins (M1BAhis and M1KAhis) were expressed at levels similar to their M1BA and M1KA counterparts as revealed by Western blotting, the activities of the his-tagged proteins were higher. M1KAhis was expressed at 2,000 units per liter of insect cell culture and M1BAhis was expressed at 200,000-400,000 units per liter of insect cell

10 culture.

The Baculoviral system is preferred for expression of RT and fragments thereof. A relative comparison of RT expression in prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells, as measured by reverse transcriptase assays of purified recombinant and crude protein, revealed that His-tagged RT polypeptides from eukaryotic insect cells were most active and stable, while

15 untagged polypeptides expressed in prokaryotic cells were less active and stable.

Recombinantly expressed polypeptides of the invention were purified using conventional protocols, with metal-affinity chromatography included for the isolation of His-tagged polypeptides. Host cells containing recombinant molecules (*i.e.* M1-5,6, M1BA, M1KA, M1BAhis and M1KAhis) encoding an RT or fragment thereof were

20 centrifuged and the cell pellet was solubilized in 20 ml cell lysis buffer (20 mM Tris HCl, pH 8.0, 150 mM NaCl, 0.5% Triton X, and 5% glycerol) per gram of cell pellet. The resuspended cells were sonicated with five 30-second bursts at 50% power on ice with 30 seconds of cooling between each round of sonication. Sonicated cells were then stirred at a low speed on a magnetic stirrer at 4°C for one hour to complete cell lysis. The lysed

25 samples were centrifuged at 12,000 x g for 30 minutes. The pellet was discarded and the supernatant was subjected to column chromatography.

RTs lacking his tags were purified according to conventional protocols, which included removal of cell debris by centrifugation and subjecting of supernatants to chromatographic purification procedures known in the art. The soluble extract containing

30 his-tagged RTs were mixed with a commercially available Ni⁺⁺ affinity column (Ni-NTA resin from Qiagen, Inc., Chatsworth, CA), thereby using the his tags for their known purpose of facilitating purification via metal affinity chromatography. The extract and affinity resin were gently rocked on ice for 1 hour in a 50 ml plastic test tube. The resin

was then packed in a column and washed with two column volumes of wash buffer (20 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, 250 mM NaCl, 0.5% Triton X-100, and 5% glycerol) and two column volumes of buffer A (20 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, 250 mM NaCl, 0.5% Triton X-100, 5% glycerol and 50 mM imidazole). (Of course, the extract could have been applied 5 to a pre-formed affinity column and purified using conventional column chromatography, as would be understood in the art.) The protein bound to the column was eluted by setting up a linear gradient from buffer A to buffer B (20 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, 250 mM NaCl, 0.5% Triton X-100, 5% glycerol and 250 mM imidazole).

Fractions from the nickel affinity column that had RT activity were analyzed by 10 SDS-PAGE to determine the purity of the protein, as shown in Fig. 2. Fig. 2 presents an electrophoretogram of an 8% SDS-PAGE gel stained with Coomassie Blue. The lanes of the gel shown in Fig. 2 contain molecular weight markers of 94 kDa, 64 kDa, 43 kDa, 30 kDa and 20 kDa (lane 1) and aliquots of fractions obtained from the nickel affinity column (lanes 15 2 to 4). The fractions that were greater than 95% pure were pooled and dialyzed against storage buffer (200 mM KPi, pH 7.2, 5 mM DTT, 0.2% Triton X-100 and 50% glycerol).

Additionally, conventional purification steps may be incorporated into the protocol to achieve greater purity, as would be understood in the art.

20 Protein concentrations were determined using the Bradford protein assay (BioRad Laboratories, Inc., Hercules, CA). Generally, the specific activity of rRT (MIBAhis) was calculated to be approximately 30,000-100,000 units/mg, which is similar to the specific activity of nRT (30-100,000 units/mg).

Example 5

The purified rRT prepared from cultures expressing MIBAhis at 400,000 units/liter of culture, a level well beyond a commercially feasible production limit, was found to be 25 greater than 95% pure as judged by electrophoretic fractionation using 10% SDS-PAGE. The apparent molecular weight of the monomer is 60 kDa, which compares well with the calculated molecular weight of approximately 59.5 kDa. The recombinant protein was analyzed on a 12.5% polyacrylamide non-denaturing gel for the presence of monomers and polymers (e.g., dimers) using the Pharmacia Phast System. The protein sample was 30 prepared in either of two ways. One aliquot was completely denatured by heating at 100°C for three minutes in treatment buffer (0.125 mM Tris-HCl, pH 6.5, 4% SDS, 20% glycerol, 10% β-mercaptoethanol). Another aliquot was partially denatured at 70°C in

treatment buffer without 2-mercaptoethanol. Under completely denaturing conditions, rRT was observed to migrate at approximately 66 kDa (BSA marker) and the partially denatured samples had additional bands ranging from 60-200 kDa, indicating that rRT formed polymers. Protein size determinations were confirmed using molecular sieve chromatography with Superose 12HR10/30 (separation range of 1-300 kDa), as described above, which revealed that the majority of the rRT eluted between beta amylase (approximately 200 kDa) and apoferritin (443 kDa). Thus, the rRT was predominantly in a polymeric form. Without wishing to be bound by theory, the addition of C-terminal histidine residues may have provided a polymerization capacity, perhaps by complex formation via metal (*e.g.*, nickel) chelation, to substitute for the loss of that capacity attributable to the integrase domain, which had been deleted. Thus, the invention contemplates RT polypeptides having C-terminal attachments in the form of compounds capable of promoting polymer formation. Suitable compounds would include, but are not limited to, a plurality of basic or acidic amino acids, as well as Cys residues capable of disulfide bond formation.

Expressed rRT was also characterized immunochemically. Monoclonal antibodies against AMV reverse transcriptase were prepared using techniques well known in the art. See Harlow *et al.*, Antibodies: A Laboratory Manual, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, New York (1988). Briefly, spleen cells from a mouse that had been immunized with RT were fused with mouse myeloma cells to make hybridomas. These hybridomas were allowed to grow into colonies in 96-well plates; supernatants from these wells were then tested to find hybridomas that appeared to make anti-RT antibodies. Further testing confirmed these results.

To prepare spleen cells for hybridoma production, a BALB/C mouse (female, ten weeks old, obtained from Harlan Sprague Dawley, Madison, WI) was immunized by several intraperitoneal injections with AMV-RT (Molecular Biology Resources, Inc.) using a conventional immunization schedule. To prepare RT for injection, the storage buffer was removed from purified RT by diluting the enzyme in phosphate-buffered saline (PBS) and reconcentrating it using a Centricon 30 concentrator (Amicon Corp.). The concentrated RT was then diluted again in PBS and emulsified with an equal volume of an adjuvant. For the initial injection, the adjuvant was complete Freund's adjuvant (Sigma Chemical Co.); for the booster injections, the Ribi Adjuvant System (Ribi Immunochem Research, Inc. Hamilton, VT) was used. The dose of RT was approximately 20 micrograms per

injection. The injections were made over a period of eight months, with successive intervals of five weeks, four weeks, three weeks, eleven weeks, eight weeks, and three weeks. The fusion was performed five days after the final boost.

For the fusion experiment, the mouse was sacrificed and spleen cells were isolated
5 and fused with myeloma cells (P3X63-AG8 653, ATCC CRL 1580), using procedures well known in the art. See Harlow *et al.* In particular, the cells were fused in 50% polyethylene glycol, resuspended in a selection medium (*i.e.*, HAT medium), and distributed into the wells of fourteen 96-well plates. After three weeks of growth, approximately 350 wells contained hybridoma colonies.
10 Hybridomas making anti-RT antibodies were identified by ELISA. For this procedure, the wells of 96-well polystyrene ELISA plates were first coated with purified RT (2 micrograms RT/ml in 100 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.5, 0.05% NaN₃; overnight incubation at room temperature), then washed with TBST (Tris-buffered saline, pH 8.5, 0.05% Triton X-100) to remove excess RT. For the assay itself, the wells were filled with
15 95 microliters of TBST plus 5 microliters of hybridoma culture supernatant. The plates were incubated at room temperature for two hours, then washed with TBST to remove unbound immunoglobulin. To detect wells with anti-RT antibodies, peroxidase-conjugated goat anti-mouse IgG (heavy-chain specific; Jackson ImmunoResearch, West Grove, PA) was diluted 5,000-fold into TBST and added to the wells of the ELISA plates. After the
20 wells had been incubated for one hour at room temperature, the unbound peroxidase conjugate was removed by thorough washing of the plates with TBST. Wells positive for RT were visualized colorimetrically following addition of the substrate 3-methyl-2-benzothiazolinone hydrazone/3-dimethylaminobenzoic acid/hydrogen peroxide to detect immobilized HRP. Hybridomas from positive wells were repeatedly cloned by limiting dilution until all wells with growth were ELISA-positive.
25

Supernatants from wells that tested positive by ELISA were further screened by immunoprecipitation of RT using techniques well known in the art. See Harlow *et al.* The immunoprecipitation assay relies on the presence of protein A (which binds IgG) on the surface of *Staphylococcus aureus* cells (SAC, Sigma Chemical Co.). Since protein A does
30 not bind strongly to mouse IgG, a pellet of centrifuged SAC cells was first treated with rabbit anti-mouse IgG antibodies. The pellet from 10 microliters of a 10% suspension of these cells was then incubated with 50 microliters of hybridoma culture supernatant for 2 hours at room temperature. The resultant SAC cells were centrifuged, washed, and

resuspended in diluted RT. The RT cell suspensions were incubated for 3 hours at 4°C and centrifuged. The resultant supernatants were removed and tested for depletion of RT activity using a standard radiochemical assay.

Six hybridoma lines tested positive in both the ELISA and immunoprecipitation assays. These lines were designated 1D8, 2E10, 4C4, 6F1, 9C2 and 9H10. All six monoclonal antibodies had gamma-1, kappa isotypes.

The form of active rRT (*i.e.*, monomer or polymer) was confirmed using ELISA in a sandwich format with anti-RT monoclonal antibodies. Initially, monoclonal antibody was immobilized in DNA bind plates. Costar Corp., Cambridge MA. The plate was then blocked with BSA to prevent non-specific binding. The wells were then incubated with purified rRT (*i.e.*, MIBAHis). Excess or unbound protein was removed by washing with phosphate-buffered saline. The wells were then incubated with the same monoclonal antibody linked to biotin for detection. If the rRT existed as a monomer, the biotin-linked monoclonal antibody should not bind to it. However, the biotin-linked monoclonal antibody did bind to the rRT, indicating that the rRT had formed a polymer.

To determine the purity of the samples containing reverse transcriptase, recombinant protein expressed from each of a variety of clones (*e.g.*, MIBAHis) and found in either the solubilized cell pellets or protein fractions from the different chromatographic columns used in purification were subjected to SDS-PAGE. Samples were electrophoresed on 8% polyacrylamide gels containing 6% stacking gels, followed by Coomassie Blue R-250 staining using standard protocols (Sambrook *et al.*, 1989). The recombinant protein was found to be greater than 95% pure.

Using the Pharmacia Phast System, the recombinant (MIBAHis) and native reverse transcriptase, as well as appropriate standards supplied with the system (*i.e.*, IEF 3-9), were subjected to isoelectric focusing electrophoresis. (Pharmacia-Upjohn, Piscataway, NJ.) The experimentally determined pI values of the rRT and RT were 6.0. The theoretical pI of rRT, calculated from its amino acid sequence, was 6.8.

For analyses of total expression, host cells containing one of several recombinant DNAs (*i.e.*, pMBacRT, pBacMIBA, pBacMIKA, pBacMIBAHis, and pBacMIKAHis) were induced to express recombinant protein. The induced cells were pelleted at 12,000 x g for 5 minutes. The cell pellet was then resuspended in SDS sample buffer (Sambrook *et al.*, 1989) or cell resuspension buffer (20 mM Tris HCl, pH 8.0, 250 mM NaCl, 0.5% Triton X-100, and 5% glycerol) to assess the solubility of the protein. Resuspended cells were

pulse-sonicated three times at a setting of 3 (Virsonic 100 from Virtis Company, Inc., Gardiner, NY) for 20 seconds each (500 mM Tris HCl, pH 6.5, 14% SDS, 30% glycerol, 9.3% DTT, and 0.012% bromophenol blue). Small aliquots of the samples in SDS sample buffer were loaded on duplicate gels and electrophoresed. One of the duplicate gels was stained with Coomassie Blue and the other gel was used to transfer protein to a 0.2 μ nitrocellulose membrane using a Bio-Rad transfer apparatus for Western blot analysis. Bio Rad Laboratories, Inc., Hercules, CA. Detection of expressed protein in fractionated crude lysates was possible using specific, monoclonal anti-RT antibodies (a mixture of monoclonal antibodies 4C4, 1D8, 2E10, 6F1, 9H10, and 9C2; Molecular Biology Resources, Inc., Milwaukee, WI) to detect the recombinant protein.

In practice, the nitrocellulose membrane containing the transferred protein was contacted with a blocking buffer (5% casein hydrolysate, 150 mM NaCl, 10 mM Tris HCl, pH 8.0) for 30 minutes followed by incubation with a 1:1000 dilution of anti-RT monoclonal antibody in blocking buffer. After overnight incubation, blots were rinsed in wash buffer (10 mM Tris HCl, pH 8.0, 150 mM NaCl, 0.5% Tween 20) and incubated with a 1:5000 dilution of alkaline phosphatase-conjugated goat anti-mouse antibody in blocking buffer for 1 hour. Subsequently, the blots were rinsed 3x with wash buffer and 1x with AP buffer (100 mM Tris HCl, pH 9.5, 5 mM MgCl₂ and 100 mM NaCl). RT was indirectly detected by performing a colorimetric phosphatase assay using a standard substrate mixture of NBT (nitroblue tetrazolium: 75 mg/ml in dimethylformamide) and BCIP (5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indolyl phosphate, 50 mg/ml in dimethylformamide), which forms a blue precipitate when dephosphorylated by any immunologically immobilized phosphatase. The anti-RT antibody recognized two bands, one at approximately 61 kDa and one at 92 kDa, in the lane containing native RT. In the lane containing recombinant, His-tagged RT expressed from M1BAhis (alpha fragment equivalent), a single band at approximately 60 kDa was found; in the lane containing recombinant, His-tagged RT expressed from M1KAhis (beta fragment equivalent) a single 91 kDa band was found.

Assays were also performed to determine the intrinsic/extrinsic exonuclease, endonuclease, (*i.e.*, nicking) DNase, and RNase activities of the rRT. An assay for 3'->5' exonuclease activity was performed using radiolabeled *TaqI* fragments of lambda DNA as a substrate. The 3' ends of *TaqI*-digested lambda DNA fragments (265 μ g) were labeled with 60 μ Ci [³H]-dCTP (57.4 μ Ci/mmole) and 60 μ Ci [³H]-dGTP (8.9 μ Ci) using 40 units of exo Klenow fragment of DNA polymerase in a standard labeling reaction.

Sambrook *et al.*, (1989). The 3'-->5' exonuclease assay was performed in a final volume of 10 μ l containing 50 mM Tris HCl, pH 7.6, 10 mM MgCl₂, 1 mM DTT, 0.015 μ g of labeled *TaqI* fragments of λ DNA, and either 2.5 or 10 units of RT enzyme. One unit of RT enzyme is the amount of enzyme required to incorporate 1 nmol of dTTP into an acid-insoluble form in 10 minutes at 37°C under the stated assay conditions (see, Example 6). Each sample was incubated at 37°C for 1 hour. The reaction was terminated by the addition of 50 μ l of yeast tRNA and 200 μ l of 10% trichloroacetic acid. After incubation for 10 minutes on ice, the samples were centrifuged for 7 minutes in a microcentrifuge. The supernatant (200 μ l), which contained the released label, was removed and added to 6 ml of scintillation fluid and counted in a scintillation counter. The results showed that the rRT released 0.13% of the label, an acceptably low level of 3'-->5' exonuclease activity.

The rRT was also subjected to a 5'-->3' exonuclease assay, using radiolabeled *HaeIII* fragments of λ DNA. The λ fragments were 5' end-labeled using 60 μ Ci [γ -³²P] dATP (2,000 Ci/mmol) and 40 units of T4 polynucleotide kinase in a conventional procedure. Sambrook *et al.*, (1989). Except for the use of 5' end-labeled *HaeIII* fragments as substrate, this assay was performed in accordance with the description of the 3'-->5' exonuclease assay above. The purified rRT released - 0.36% of the label into an acid-soluble form, an acceptably low level of 5'-->3' exonuclease activity.

Double-stranded and single-stranded DNase assays were also performed using the protocol for the 3'-->5' exonuclease assay, again with the exception of the type of labeled substrate being used. For each of the DNase assays, intact lambda DNA (0.5 μ g) was labeled with 30 μ Ci [α -³²P] dATP (2,000 Ci/mmol) using the random primer extension technique understood in the art. Each assay used 0.015 μ g of labeled λ DNA. For single-stranded DNase assays, the labeled λ DNA fragments were further subjected to heat denaturation (3 minutes at 100°C followed immediately by chilling on ice) to prepare the substrate. Again with the exception of the type of substrate employed, each of the DNase assays were conducted as described above in the context of the 3'-->5' exonuclease assay. The rRT released 0.5% of the label in the double-stranded DNase assay: 0.02% of the label was released in the single-stranded DNase assay. Both results indicate acceptably low levels of DNase activities. The purified rRT was also subjected to an endonuclease, or nicking, assay by examining the extent to which the rRT converted a supercoiled substrate in the form of pBR322 to a relaxed form, as visualized by agarose gel electrophoretic

fractionation. The assay for endonuclease activity was performed in a final volume of 10 µl containing 50 mM Tris HCl, pH 7.6, 10 mM MgCl₂, 1 mM β-mercaptoethanol, 0.5 µg pBR322, and 2.5, 5 or 10 units of enzyme. Each sample was incubated at 37°C for 1 hour. Two microliters of 0.25% bromophenol blue, 1 mM EDTA and 40% sucrose were 5 added to stop the reaction. After a brief centrifugation, 6 µl of the sample were electrophoresed on a 1.0% agarose gel in 1X TBE. Sambrook *et al.*, (1989). The results showed that less than 10% of the supercoiled substrate was converted to a relaxed form, an acceptably low level of nicking activity.

The rRT was also characterized in terms of its RNase activity. In particular, this 10 assay was designed to measure general RNase activity and, specifically, not an RNase H activity. Substrate was prepared using run-off transcription from a T7 promoter in the presence of [α -³²P] UTP. In particular, the plasmid pPV2 (a pTZ-based vector containing a ColE1 ori; an ampicillin selectable marker; T7, T3 and lac promoters; and a 695 bp insert from plum pox virus) was linearized with *Pvu*II. The run-off transcription reaction 15 was performed with 1 µg of linearized pPV2, 30 µCi of [α -³²P] dATP (2,000 Ci/mmol), and 10 units of T7 RNA polymerase using a conventional procedure. The RNase assay was then performed in the presence of single-stranded RNA substrate (0.15 µg) and rRT (2.5, 5 or 10 units). Released label was again recovered as acid-soluble material using the TCA precipitation procedure described above. Scintillation counting showed that 1% of 20 the radiolabel was released, indicating an acceptably low level of RNase activity.

Example 6

The RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activities of native RT and recombinant RT (purified expression product of M1BAhis) were compared. One unit of enzyme was compared in RT assays with either poly rA:dT₁₂₋₁₈ (20:1) or mRNA as substrate. Product 25 quantity was determined by either glass filter precipitation or binding to DE52 filters; product quality was monitored by autoradiography of a 1.2% TBE agarose gel containing fractionated reaction products.

The reverse transcriptase activities of the native and recombinant proteins were compared using a modification of a procedure described by Meyers *et al.*, Biochemistry 30:7661-7666 (1991). The reaction mixture contained 1x reaction buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.3, 40 mM KCl, 10 mM MgCl₂), 1 mM DTT, 0.4 mM poly rA:dT₁₈, 0.5 µCi [α -³²P] TTP (3,000 Ci/mmol), 0.5 mM dTTP, 1 unit of enzyme (one unit of RT enzyme

is the amount of enzyme required to incorporate 1 nmol of dTTP into an acid-insoluble form in 10 minutes at 37°C under the stated assay conditions), and ddH₂O to 50 µl total volume. Reaction mixtures without enzyme were pre incubated at 37°C for 1 minute prior to the addition of enzyme. Reactions were then incubated at 37°C for 20 minutes, and 5 terminated by adding 2 µl of 0.5 M EDTA followed by applying 40 µl of each reaction mixture to separate DE52 filter membranes. The filters were washed three times with 5% Na₂HPO₄ for 5 minutes each, then rinsed with ddH₂O followed by 95% ethanol. The filters were air dried, placed in scintillation fluid, and immobilized radioactivity was quantitated.

10 A variation of the filter assay was used to compare the quantity and quality of reaction products. Messenger RNA, 891 bp control and 7.5 kb mRNA, were obtained from GIBCO BRL, Gaithersburg, MO. The following substitutions in the assay described above were made: 1 µg of mRNA primed with 0.5 mM oligo dT₁₂₋₁₈ primer, instead of poly rA:dT₁₈; and mixed dNTPs (0.5 µM each of dGTP, dATP, TTP and dCTP, and 0.02 15 µCi [α -³²P]-dATP (6,000 Ci/mmol)), instead of [α -³²P] dTTP. Reactions were initiated by adding 5 units of RT to the reaction mixture. After 1 hour of incubation at 37°C, a 20 µl sample was removed and mixed with 5 µl of stop solution (95% de-ionized formamide, 10 mM EDTA, 0.05% xylene cyanol FF, and 0.05% bromophenol blue) and loaded onto a 1.2% TBE agarose gel along with a 1 kb ladder of standards (Chimerx, Madison, WI).

20 Gel samples were electrophoresed at 100 volts for approximately 2 hours and dried. Dried gels were autoradiographed at -70°C for 3 days and developed to visualize bands. The results are presented in Fig. 3, which presents autoradiographic data showing size-fractionated reverse transcriptase products using poly A-tailed mRNA as a template and oligo dT_n primers. In particular, the template was 891 nucleotides (lanes 2 and 4) or 7,500 25 nucleotides (lanes 1 and 3), nRT was used in reactions analyzed in lanes 3 and 4, while rRT was used in reactions analyzed in lanes 1 and 2. Both the native and recombinant RT's produced products of 891 bp and 7.5 kb, depending on the size of the mRNA template.

Example 7

The properties of native MAV-RT and recombinant RT were compared. In 30 particular, optima for temperature, pH, magnesium ion concentration, and other divalent cation (*i.e.*, calcium, copper, manganese and zinc) concentrations were determined.

a) **Temperature optima**

The RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity of native MAV-RT and recombinant MAV-RT (*i.e.*, M1BAhis) were compared in RT assays conducted at different temperatures.

The relative RT activities of the enzymes were compared between 37°C and 70°C
5 at pH 8.0. The activity assays were performed in a 50 µl reaction mixture, containing 50 mM Tris HCl, pH 8, 40 mM KCl, 10 mM MgCl₂, 1.34% trehalose, 2% maltitol, 1 mM DTT, 0.5 mM poly rA:dT₁₈, 0.5 mCi [³H]-dTTP (70-90 Ci/mmol), 0.5 mM dTTP, 5 U enzyme (rRT or nRT), and ddH₂O. Duplicate reactions were incubated at each temperature for 10 minutes. Products were quantitated by determining the [³H]-dTTP
10 incorporated using a scintillation counter. The results are presented as counts per minute as a function of temperature in degrees Celsius, as shown in Fig. 4A (black: rRT (*i.e.*, M1BAhis); hatched: nRT). These results reveal that the optimum temperature for both nRT and rRT in RT assays was 55°C.

The temperature profiles of nRT and rRT (*i.e.*, M1BAhis) in RAMP assays were
15 also determined. RAMP reactions were conducted as described in PCT/US97/04170, incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. In particular, the target nucleic acid being amplified was Cryptosporidium mRNA from one oocyte. As described in detail in Example 8, this mRNA target was reverse transcribed into cDNA at different temperatures using 20 units of native RT or 15 units of recombinant RT. The results are presented absorbance at
20 450 nm as a function of temperature in degrees Celsius, as shown in Fig. 4C (hatched line: standard; closed circles: rRT (*i.e.*, M1BAhis)). The actual absorbance values at the various temperatures are shown below the figure (upper row: standard; lower row: rRT).

b) pH optima

The relative RT activities of nRT and rRT in reactions at various pH values were
25 also compared. Two sets of comparative reactions were designed: one set incubated at a conventional temperature of 37°C, the other set incubated at a 60°C temperature suitable only for thermostable enzymes.

The pH values of selected buffers were adjusted at room temperature. Activity assays were performed in a 50 µl reaction mixture, containing 40 mM KCl, 10 mM
30 MgCl₂, 1 mM DTT, 0.5 mM poly rA:dT₁₈, 0.5 mCi [³H]-dTTP (70-90 Ci/mmol), 0.5 mM dTTP, 5 units enzyme, ddH₂O, and 50 mM Tris-HCl (pH 6, 7, 8, 8.3, 9, or 9.5). Reactions were incubated at 37°C or 60°C for 10 minutes. Products were quantitated by determining the [³H]-dTTP incorporated as counts per minute using a scintillation counter.

with the activities of nRT and rRT (*i.e.*, M1BAhis) under the various pH conditions being shown in Figs. 4D and 4E (black: rRT (*i.e.*, M1BAhis); gray-hatched: nRT). The data in the Figures establish that the optimum pH for nRT and rRT is pH 8.

c) Mg⁺⁺ ion optima

The RT assay described in Example 7(b) was modified to determine the influence of MgCl₂ concentration on the activities of the native and recombinant RTs. The reaction buffer contained 50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.3, and MgCl₂ ranging in concentration from 0-100 mM; all other reaction components were as described in Example 7(b). The reactions were incubated at 37°C. Incorporated [³H]-dTTP was measured by scintillation counting, with the results presented as counts per minute. The optimum MgCl₂ concentration was found to be 5 mM for both nRT and rRT, as shown in Fig. 4F (black: rRT (*i.e.*, M1BAhis); gray-hatched: nRT).

d) Other divalent cation requirements

The reaction described above in the context of determining Mg⁺⁺ concentration optima was modified to determine the influence of different divalent cations on RT activity. The reaction buffer included 50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.3, and 10 mM of the chloride salt of a divalent cation (MgCl₂, CuCl₂, MnCl₂, ZnCl₂, or CaCl₂). Independent experiments were performed and a curve was constructed. Fig. 4G shows the activities of the enzymes as counts incorporated as a function of the cation used in the reaction (black: rRT (*i.e.*, M1BAhis); gray-hatched: nRT). As shown in Fig. 4G, maximal activity of both nRT and rRT (*i.e.*, M1BAhis) was achieved using magnesium as the divalent cation.

Example 8

Conceptually, RT-PCR consists of a pre-amplification reaction followed by an amplification reaction. The pre-amplification reaction involves the use of reverse transcriptase to synthesize the first strand of cDNA using a CAT (*i.e.*, chloramphenicol acetyltransferase) mRNA as template. The CAT mRNA was provided in the Superscript kit from GIBCO-BRL, and the reaction was performed according to the supplier's recommendations. Following this reaction, the RNA from the RNA-DNA hybrid was removed by RNase H to free the first strand for use as a template in a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR).

The pre-amplification reaction mixture initially consisted of 50 ng of control mRNA (*i.e.*, CAT mRNA), 500 ng of oligo dT₁₂₋₁₈, and ddH₂O to bring the mixture to a total

volume of 12 μ l. This mixture was incubated at 70°C for 1 minute. Subsequently, 2 μ l of 10x PCR buffer, 2 μ l of 25 mM MgCl₂, 1 μ l of dNTP from a combined stock solution containing 10 mM each of dGTP, dATP, TTP and dCTP, and 2 μ l of 0.1 M DTT were added to the mRNA/oligo dT mixture. One set of reactions was incubated with 20 U of nRT and the other set of reactions was incubated with 20 U of rRT (*i.e.*, M1BAhis). One tube from each set was incubated at one of several temperatures and each reaction proceeded for one hour. The reactions were terminated by incubation at 90°C for 2 minutes. Reactions were then cooled on ice and 1 μ l of RNase H was added to each tube and incubated at 37°C for 20 minutes.

For the amplification reactions, each reaction mixture was assembled in a thin-wall tube containing: 5 μ l of 10x PCR buffer, 3 μ l of 25 mM MgCl₂, 1 μ l of dNTP from a combined stock solution containing 10 mM each of dGTP, dATP, TTP and dCTP, 1 μ l each of 10 μ M amplification primer 1 and 10 μ M amplification primer 2 as supplied in the superscript kit, 1 μ l of Taq DNA polymerase and *Pyrococcus woesei* (*i.e.*, Pwo) DNA polymerase mix, (Boehringer Mannheim Corp., Indianapolis, IN) 2 μ l of the cDNA mixture from the first-strand synthesis reaction and ddH₂O to 50 μ l total volume. Reaction products were analyzed by subjecting 5 μ l of the reaction to fractionation on a 1.2% TBE agarose gel and determining the intensity of the bands, in ng of DNA, using an imager equipped with a DC40 camera and Kodak Digital Sciences 1D™ software. The quantity of DNA synthesized by rRT was comparable to the quantity synthesized by nRT.

The results showed that the temperature optimum for RT-PCR was 60°C using either nRT or rRT, as shown in Fig. 4B (results are presented as ng of PCR products produced as a function of temperature in degrees Celsius, with open squares indicating rRT (*i.e.*, M1BAhis) and solid squares indicating nRT). The quantity of gene-specific products was greater at 60°C than at 37°C. The optimum temperature for RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity for both nRT and rRT was 55°C (*see*, Example 7a and Fig. 4A). The differences in temperature optima are probably due to the need for both DNA-dependent DNA polymerase and RNase H activities (having different temperature optima) in RT-PCR.

Rapid Amplification (*i.e.*, RAMP) is an amplification technique disclosed in International Application Serial No. PCT/US97/04170. A RAMP reaction was also performed using an RT according to the invention and a first strand of cDNA from a *Cryptosporidium* oocyte mRNA as a template, along with a nicking enzyme (*i.e.*,

*Bsi*HKCl) and Bst DNA polymerase. The Bst DNA polymerase provided both polynucleotide synthesis activity and strand displacing activity.

The reaction consisted of 35 mM K₂PO₄, 0.7 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.9, 1.4 mM dCTP, 0.5 mM each of dATP, dGTP and dTTP, 35 mg of Bovine Serum Albumin, 10.2
5 mM MgCl₂, 3.4 mM KCl, 0.7 mM DTT, 2% Maltitol, 1.34% Trehalose, 0.5 mM of Amplification Primer 1 (5'-ACCCCCATCCAATGCATGTCTCGGGTCGTAGTCT-TAACCAT-3'; SEQ ID NO:31) and Amplification Primer 2, (5'-CGATTCCGCTC-CAGACTTCTCGGGTGCAGAAGGAGTAAGG-3'; SEQ ID NO:32) and 1% glycerol.
10 To each reaction, 15 units of rRT (*i.e.*, M1BAhis) or 20 units of nRT were added, along with 36 units of Bst DNA polymerase and 250 units of *Bsi*HKCl in a total volume of 10 µl.

The amount of product synthesized in each reaction was measured by a plate assay. The plate assay consisted of a gene-specific capture primer (5'-AAACTATGCCAACTAGAGATTGGAGGTGTTT-3'; SEQ ID NO:30) bound to the
15 wells of a microtiter plate and used to capture the product. The captured product was then detected by an oligonucleotide (HRP-conjugated P2 Comp; SEQ ID NO:37) linked to Horse Radish Peroxidase. The amount of bound HRP was detected by a colorimetric assay standard in the art.

The amount of product synthesized by the rRT was two-fold more than the quantity
20 synthesized by nRT between temperatures of 55°C to 64°C, as shown in Fig. 4C. The difference in temperature optima between the RT assays and the amplifications may be due, in part, to the differences in the relative RNase H activities at the assessed temperatures. The lowest RNase H activity was seen between 60°-65°C, temperatures that also produced longer cDNA products and greater amplification of templates. The temperature profile of
25 the RNase H activity of rRT is shown in Fig. 6B.

Example 9

In addition to RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity, MAV-RT has additional enzyme activities, such as DNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity. The DNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity was investigated using a single-stranded M13mp18
30 DNA template and a sequence-specific [γ^{32} P] labeled primer (*i.e.*, Forward Sequencing Primer or FSP; 5'-CGCCAGGGTTTCCCAGTCACGA-3'; SEQ ID NO:29). The 10 µl reaction mixture contained 50 mM Tris HCl, pH 8.3, 40 mM KCl, 10 mM MgCl₂, 20

μM of each conventional dNTP, 0.24 pmol of sequence-specific primer FSP, and 800 ng of single-stranded M13mp18 DNA template. Four units of rRT (*i.e.*, M1BAhis) and 5 units of nRT were compared to a commercially available thermostable DNA polymerase (Sequitherm, 5 units) using the buffer provided in the kit. (Sequitherm Cycle Sequencing kit, Epicenter Technologies, Madison, WI). The DNA-dependent DNA polymerase activities of nRT and rRT were approximately equivalent.

The DNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity was also determined at different temperatures. For these reactions, incorporated [α -³²P]-dTTP served as a label and a non-radioactive primer was used. The reaction consisted of 200 ng of single-stranded M13mp18 DNA, 1.5 pmoles of FSP, 50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.3, 40 mM KCl, 10 mM MgCl₂, 1 mM DTT, 0.6 μCi of [α -³²P]-dTTP (3,000 Ci/mmol), and 20 μM each of dATP, dGTP, dCTP, and dTTP, in a total volume of 24 μl. A conventional protocol was used for the reactions (Sambrook *et al.*, (1989)) and the reactions were terminated by adding 2 μl of 10 mM EDTA (0.8 mM final concentration). The incorporated [α -³²P]-dTTP was determined using DE52 membranes and scintillation counting, as described above. Results shown in Fig. 5 indicate that the optimum temperature for DNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity for rRT was 45°C-50°C; for nRT, the temperature optimum was 55°C. The DNA-dependent DNA polymerase activities of the RTs of the invention broadens the range of applications amenable to use of these polypeptides. In addition to copying DNA as well as RNA, the enzymes may be used in any of the above-mentioned variety of amplification technologies known in the art. In addition, the polypeptides of the invention may be used to sequence RNA or DNA targets using Sanger's enzymatic approach as originally disclosed or any one of the many variations of that technique that have been developed since that time.

25

Example 10

An rRT (*i.e.*, M1BAhis) according to the invention (*i.e.*, M1BAhis) was subjected to an RNase H assay, using a protocol known in the art. Hillenbrand *et al.*, Nucl. Acids Res. 10:833 (1982). Reactions (25 μl) contained 20 mM HEPES-KOH, pH 8.0 (23°C), 10 mM MgCl₂, 50 mM KCl, 1 mM DTT, 0.24 mM [α -³²P] poly(A)-poly(dT) (1:2; 15 μCi/ml), and 4 μl of diluted enzyme purified from M1BAhis as described above.

For control reactions, standard stocks of RNase II (Molecular Biology Resources, Inc. Milwaukee, WI) with known activity were assayed in the range of 0.05 to 0.5

units/reaction (one unit of activity is defined as the amount of enzyme required to produce 1 nmol of acid soluble ribonucleotide from [α -³²P] poly A-poly(dT) in 20 minutes at 37 °C). Two reactions were run without enzyme to serve as negative controls.

A reaction mixture, less enzyme, was prepared and the reaction started by the
5 addition of enzyme. After 20 minutes of incubation at 37°C, the reaction was terminated by adding 25 μ l of cold yeast tRNA as co-precipitant (10 mg/ml in 0.1 M sodium acetate, pH 5.0) followed by 200 μ l of 10% trichloroacetic acid. Samples were then placed on ice for at least 10 minutes. The mixtures were centrifuged for 7 minutes at 16,000 $\times g$ in an Eppendorf microcentrifuge (Brinkman Instruments, Westburg, NY), and 200 μ l of the
10 supernatant fluid was withdrawn and counted in 5 ml of scintillation fluid.

The RNase H activity of the rRT at different temperatures was also tested using the reaction mixture described above. The results are presented as counts per minute of released radiolabeled ribonucleotide for each of two trials, as shown in Fig. 6A (black: rRT (*i.e.*, M1BAHis); gray-hatched: nRT). The data show that rRT had RNase H activity
15 comparable to that of native RT. In addition, rRT activity was assessed at a variety of temperatures and the results presented in Fig. 6B showed that rRT was active over a wide range of temperatures. The optimum RNase H activity for rRT was 50°C. In contrast, RNase H activity was relatively low at temperatures of 37°C, 60°C and 65°C. Because of differences in the temperature optima for RT RNase H activity and the other RT
20 activities, such as the RNA- and DNA-dependent DNA polymerase activities, the various methods relying on RT activity may be optimized by adjusting the temperature to achieve the desired mix of activities. For example, methods involving use of an RNase H activity may be performed at temperatures relatively close to the 55°C temperature optimum for the RNase H activity of rRT. Methods that benefit from decreased RNase H activity, such as RT-PCR and RAMP, may be performed at 60-65°C to maintain a low level of RNase
25 H activity.

Example 11

A variety of polynucleotides were constructed that encoded modified RT fragments.
These modified RTs include α and β polypeptides that have been terminally modified by
30 deletion of a naturally occurring terminal region of the peptide to produce α -like and β -like fragments retaining RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity. Other modified RTs according to the invention involve an α -like or β -like fragment attached at either the N-

terminus, C- terminus, or both termini to one or more peptides (those peptides including simple homo-oligomeric peptides, preferably charged or bulky, and peptides containing useful functionalities such as DNA binding, metal binding, structure stabilizing and polymerizing [e.g., zinc finger domains, leucine zipper motifs, an NS1 binding site, GPRP 5 (single-letter amino acid identification) or its inverse PRPG, among others] capacities). Yet other modified RT's according to the invention include fragments that lack a sequence found internally in one of the native polypeptides, α or β .

Techniques used to construct polynucleotides encoding these modified RT's are known in the art and described in Examples 1 and 3 above. Generally, the strategy was 10 to use PCR to construct the desired polynucleotide, which was then cloned and expressed to produce the encoded modified RT. The expression studies were generally conducted as described in Example 4.

Expression of eukaryotic genes in prokaryotes may result in production of misincorporated, truncated and/or insoluble proteins (misfolding) due to the presence of rare 15 codons in those eukaryotic genes. Translation of these rare codons is limited by the regulated expression of tRNAs corresponding to these rare codons. Hence, expression of eukaryotic genes having abundant rare codons sometimes results in misincorporation, truncation and/or misfolding. One approach to minimizing such problems is to clone the tRNA corresponding to these rare codons and express the clone in *E. coli* in order to facilitate the expression of 20 eukaryotic genes. We have cloned and expressed the ArgU tRNA because the arginine codons (AGG, AGA CGA and CGG) present the largest number of rare codons in AMV-RT. Co-expression of AMV-RT and ArgU is expected to improve expression (*i.e.*, activity levels) of AMV-RT. Other rare codons such as leucine (CTA) and proline (CCC) will also be cloned and co-expressed.

25 Another approach to improved expression of the modified RT's of the invention in prokaryotes is to change the rare codons in modified RT coding regions to frequently used codons. Such changes can be readily effected by a variety of techniques known in the art, *e.g.*, site-directed mutagenesis using synthetic oligonucleotides. In an *E. coli* expression system, there would be 90 rare codons (38 arginine, 23 proline, 15 isoleucine, 10 leucine and 30 4 serine codons) in the AMV-RT gene, all or some of which may be advantageously changed to frequent codons. Changing all 90 rare codons to the frequent codons found in abundantly expressed genes could imbalance host cell metabolism, however. To accommodate deleterious effects on host cell metabolism arising from modified RT expression levels that are

too high, a library of clones may be constructed using, e.g., an M13-based approach to site-directed mutagenesis involving oligonucleotide primer incorporation. Specifically, pools of synthetic oligonucleotides, each oligonucleotide designed to convert one or a few rare codons to frequent codons, and a template comprising a modified RT coding region may be used to 5 synthesize a collection of modified RTs having a range of 1-90 rare codon conversions. Clones having RT activity may be isolated from this library by conventional screening techniques (e.g., binding to radioactive substrate and activity assays, among others).

To facilitate an understanding of the structures of the various polynucleotides and polypeptides disclosed in this Example, Table II below collects pertinent information. All 10 constructions generated by PCR used a suitable, full-length coding region sequence as a template, such as the *pol* gene sequence found in M1-5,6.

Table II

Clone	Approx. Length of Coding Region	Oligonucleotide additions/PCR Primers	Added oligonucleotide locations (nucleotide numbering of SEQ ID NO:1)	Added oligonucleotide characteristics
M1BA (His6)	1754	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BAhisXhoI extend (SEQ ID NO:45)	253-269 1986-1967	6 His codons
15 M1BA (His10)	1766	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA His10 (SEQ ID NO:46)	253-269 1986-1967	10 His codons
M1BA (His12)	1772	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA His12 (SEQ ID NO:47)	253-269 1986-1967	12 His codons
M1BA (Leu)	1754	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA Leu (SEQ ID NO:48)	253-269 1986-1968	6 Leu codons

Clone	Approx. Length of Coding Region	Oligonucleotide additions/PCR Primers	Added oligonucleotide locations (nucleotide numbering of SEQ ID NO:1)	Added oligonucleotide characteristics
M1BA (Lys)	1757	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA Lys (SEQ ID NO:49)	253-269 1986-1968	7 Lys codons
M1BA (Arg6)	1754	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA Arg6 (SEQ ID NO:50)	253-269 1986-1967	6 Arg codons
M1BA (Arg3, X4)	1757	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA Arg3X4 (SEQ ID NO:51)	253-269 1986-1967	3 Arg, 2 Asn, 1 Gln, 1 Tyr codon
5 M1BA (Asp6)	1754	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA Asp6 (SEQ ID NO:52)	253-269 1986-1968	6 Asp codons
M1BA (Asp4)	1748	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA Asp4 (SEQ ID NO:53)	253-269 1986-1968	4 Asp codons
M1BA (Asp5)	1751	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA Asp5 (SEQ ID NO:54)	253-269 1986-1968	5 Asp codons
M1BA (Asp8)	1760	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA Asp8 (SEQ ID NO:55)	253-269 1986-1968	8 Asp codons

	Clone	Approx. Length of Coding Region	Oligonucleotide additions/PCR Primers	Added oligonucleotide locations (nucleotide numbering of SEQ ID NO:1)	Added oligonucleotide characteristics
	M1BA (Asp12)	1772	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA Asp12 (SEQ ID NO:56)	253-269 1986-1968	12 Asp codons
	M1BA (Glu6, Xhol)	1754	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA Glu6, Xhol (SEQ ID NO:57)	253-269 1986-1968	6 Glu codons
5	M1BA (Glu12)	1772	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA Glu12 (SEQ ID NO:58)	253-269 1986-1968	12 Glu codons
	M1BK 620	1862	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BK 620 (SEQ ID NO:74)	253-269 2112-2092	
	M1BK 620 His	1880	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BK 620 His (SEQ ID NO:60)	253-269 2112-2092	6 His codons
10	M1BK 640 Xhol	1919	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BK 640 Xhol (SEQ ID NO:76)	253-269 2149-2169	
	M1BK 660 Xhol	1982	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BK 660 Xhol (SEQ ID NO:77)	253-269 2210-2232	

	Clone	Approx. Length of Coding Region	Oligonucleotide additions/PCR Primers	Added oligonucleotide locations (nucleotide numbering of SEQ ID NO:1)	Added oligonucleotide characteristics
	M1BK680 Xhol	2042	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BK 680 Xhol (SEQ ID NO:78)	253-269 2273-2292	
	M1BK 760 Xhol	2282	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BK 760 Xhol (SEQ ID NO:79)	253-269 2512-2532	
5	M1BK 800 Xhol	2399	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BK 800 Xhol (SEQ ID NO:80)	253-269 2628-2649	
	M1BK 640 His Xhol	1937	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BK 640 His Xhol (SEQ ID NO:81)	253-269 2149-2169	6 His codons
10	M1BK 660 His Xhol	2000	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BK 660 His Xhol (SEQ ID NO:82)	253-269 2210-2232	6 His codons
	M1BK 680 His Xhol	2060	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BK 680 His Xhol (SEQ ID NO:83)	253-269 2273-2292	6 His codons

	Clone	Approx. Length of Coding Region	Oligonucleotide additions/PCR Primers	Added oligonucleotide locations (nucleotide numbering of SEQ ID NO:1)	Added oligonucleotide characteristics
	M1BK 760 His Xhol	2300	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BK 760 His XhoI (SEQ ID NO:100)	253-269 2512-2532	6 His codons
	M1BK 800 His Xhol	2417	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BK 800 His XhoI (SEQ ID NO:84)	253-269 2628-2649	6 His codons
5	M1BA (LZIP2 Xhol)	1757	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA LZIP2 XhoI (SEQ ID NO:61)	253-269 1986-1968	Leucine zipper (2 copies)
	M1BA (LZIP3 Xhol)	1778	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA LZIP3 XhoI (SEQ ID NO:62)	253-269 1986-1968	Leucine zipper (3 copies)
10	M1BA (LZIP4 Xhol)	1799	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA LZIP4 XhoI (SEQ ID NO:63)	253-269 1986-1968'	Leucine zipper (4 copies)
	M1BA (LZIP5 Xhol)	1820	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA LZIP5 XhoI (SEQ ID NO:64)	253-269 1986-1968'	Leucine zipper (5 copies)

Clone	Approx. Length of Coding Region	Oligonucleotide additions/PCR Primers	Added oligonucleotide locations (nucleotide numbering of SEQ ID NO:1)	Added oligonucleotide characteristics
M1BA (Cyst2)	1742	FM1BA Smal (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA Cyst2 (SEQ ID NO:65)	253-269 1986-1968	2 Cys codons
M1BA (Cyst6)	1754	FM1BA Smal (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA Cyst6 (SEQ ID NO:66)	253-269 1986-1968	6 Cys codons
M1BA (GPRP)	1748	FM1BA Smal (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA GPRP (SEQ ID NO:67)	253-269 1986-1968	GPRP motif
5 M1BA (PRPG)	1748	FM1BA Smal (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA PRPG (SEQ ID NO:68)	253-269 1986-1968	PRPG motif
M1BA (NS1 Xhol)	1796	FM1BA Smal (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA NS1 Xhol (SEQ ID NO:98)	253-269 1986-1966	NS1 site
M1BA (WH)	1769	FM1BA Smal (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA WH (SEQ ID NO:69)	253-269 1986-1968	WH motif
10 M1BA (3PPG Xhol)	1763	FM1BA Smal (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA 3PPG Xhol (SEQ ID NO:70)	253-269 1986-1968	3 "PPG" motifs

	Clone	Approx. Length of Coding Region	Oligonucleotide additions/PCR Primers	Added oligonucleotide locations (nucleotide numbering of SEQ ID NO:1)	Added oligonucleotide characteristics
	M1BA (Trp)	1754	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); RM1BA TRP (SEQ ID NO:71)	253-269 1986-1968	6 Trp codons
	M1BA (Nhis SmaI)	1754	FM1BA Nhis SmaI (SEQ ID NO:72); RM1BA XhoI (SEQ ID NO:59)	253-269 1986-1967	6 His codons
5	M1BA (NWH SmaI)	1769	FM1BA NWH SmaI (SEQ ID NO:73); RM1BA XhoI (SEQ ID NO:59)	253-270 1986-1967	WH motif
	DNPCR1 (D450N)	1754	FDNPCR1 (D450N) (SEQ ID NO:92); RDNPCR1 (D450N) (SEQ ID NO:93)	1577-1622	Mismatch at position 1600 of SEQ ID NO:1
	DNPCR2 (D505N)	1754	FDNPCR2 (D505N) (SEQ ID NO:94); RDNPCR2 (D505N) (SEQ ID NO:95)	1744-1789	mismatch at position 1765 of SEQ ID NO:1
10	M1BA (E484Q)	1754	FM1BA E484Q (SEQ ID NO:96); RM1BA E484Q (SEQ ID NO:97)	1678-1725	mismatch at position 1702 of SEQ ID NO:1

Clone	Approx. Length of Coding Region	Oligonucleotide additions/PCR Primers	Added oligonucleotide locations (nucleotide numbering of SEQ ID NO:1)	Added oligonucleotide characteristics
5	Core domain deletion- Fragment 1a	2113 FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); and RM1BK 620 Xhol (SEQ ID NO:74); and F Cint Xhol (SEQ ID NO:85). R Cint Sall (SEQ ID NO:86)	253-269 2092-2112 2560-2580 2788-2811	
	Core domain deletion- Fragment 1b	2170 FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); and RM1BK 640 Xhol; and F Cint Xhol (SEQ ID NO:85); R Cint Sall (SEQ ID NO:86)	253-269 2149-2169 2560-2580 2788-2811	
	Core domain deletion- Fragment 1c	2233 FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); and RM1BK 660 Xhol; and F Cint Xhol (SEQ ID NO:85); R Cint Sall (SEQ ID NO:86)	253-269 2210-2232 2560-2580 2788-2811	
10	Core domain deletion- 3' fragment 2a	2131 FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); and RM1BK 620 Xhol (SEQ ID NO:74); and F Cint Xhol (SEQ ID NO:85); R Cint His Sall (SEQ ID NO:87)	253-269 2092-2112 2560-2580 2788-2811	6 His codons

Clone	Approx. Length of Coding Region	Oligonucleotide additions/PCR Primers	Added oligonucleotide locations (nucleotide numbering of SEQ ID NO:1)	Added oligonucleotide characteristics
5	Core domain deletion- 3' fragment 2b	2188 FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); and RM1BK 640 XhoI; and F Cint XhoI (SEQ ID NO:85); R Cint II His Sall (SEQ ID NO:87)	253-269 2149-2169 2560-2580 2788-2811	6 His codons
	Core domain deletion- 3' fragment 2c	2251 FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); and RM1BK 660 XhoI; and F Cint XhoI (SEQ ID NO:85); R Cint His Sall (SEQ ID NO:87)	253-269 2210-2232 2560-2580 2788-2811	6 His codons
	Core domain deletion- 3' fragment 3a	2155 FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); and RM1BK 620 XhoI (SEQ ID NO:74); and F Cint 731 Sall (SEQ ID NO:88); RCint 830 XhoI (SEQ ID NO:90)	253-269 2092-2112 2443-2463 2736-2716	
10	Core domain deletion- 3' fragment 3b	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); and RM1BK 640 XhoI; and F Cint 731 Sall (SEQ ID NO:88); RCint 830 XhoI (SEQ ID NO:90)	253-269 2149-2169 2443-2463 2736-2716	

Clone	Approx. Length of Coding Region	Oligonucleotide additions/PCR Primers	Added oligonucleotide locations (nucleotide numbering of SEQ ID NO:1)	Added oligonucleotide characteristics
5	Core domain deletion- 3' fragment 3c	2275	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); and RM1BK 660 Xhol; and F Cint 731 SalI (SEQ ID NO:88); RCint 830 Xhol (SEQ ID NO:90)	253-269 2210-2232 2443-2463 2736-2716
	Core domain deletion- 3' fragment 4a	2101	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); and RM1BK 620 Xhol (SEQ ID NO:74); and F Cint 751 SalI (SEQ ID NO:89); RCint 830 Xhol (SEQ ID NO:90)	253-269 2092-2112 2497-2517 2736-2716
	Core domain deletion- 3' fragment 4b	2158	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); and RM1BK 640 Xhol; and F Cint 751 SalI (SEQ ID NO:89); RCint 830 Xhol (SEQ ID NO:90)	253-269 2149-2169 2497-2517 2736-2716
10	Core domain deletion- 3' fragment 4c	2221	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); and RM1BK 660 Xhol; and F Cint 751 SalI (SEQ ID NO:89); RCint 830 Xhol (SEQ ID NO:90)	253-269 2210-2232 2497-2517 2736-2716

	Clone	Approx. Length of Coding Region	Oligonucleotide additions/PCR Primers	Added oligonucleotide locations (nucleotide numbering of SEQ ID NO:1)	Added oligonucleotide characteristics
5	Core domain deletion- 3' fragment 5a	2032	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); and RM1BK 620 XhoI (SEQ ID NO:74); and F Cint 771 Sall (SEQ ID NO:99); RCint 830 XhoI (SEQ ID NO:90)	253-269 2092-2112	
	Core domain deletion- 3' fragment 5b	2089	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); and RM1BK 640 XhoI; and F Cint 771 Sall (SEQ ID NO:99); RCint 830 XhoI (SEQ ID NO:90)	253-269 2149-2169 2566-2586 2736-2716	
	Core domain deletion- 3' fragment 5c	2152	FM1BA SmaI (SEQ ID NO:25); and RM1BK 660 XhoI; and F Cint 771 Sall (SEQ ID NO:99); RCint 830 XhoI (SEQ ID NO:90)	253-269 2210-2232 2566-2586 2736-2716	
10	Oligonucleotides hybridize to an internal region of oligonucleotide RM1BA LZip3 XhoI, which in turn recognizes the indicated region of SEQ ID NO:1.				

A. Terminally deleted RTs

The full-length RT coding region was truncated by deletions using conventional methodologies described above (e.g., Example 3). One set of deletion derivatives lacked

15 the 3' end of the MAV-RT coding region to varying extents. Again, relative to the full-length gene (SEQ ID NO:1), the 3' (C-terminal) deletion extending to the *Kpn*I site (MIKA; see SEQ ID NO:8) increased the RT expression level, as evidenced by SDS-

PAGE. Relative to the full-length gene (SEQ ID NO:1), deletion of the region extending from the *Bgl*II site to the 3' terminus (MIBA; see SEQ ID NO:6) also increased RT expression and activity, as evidenced by SDS-PAGE and activity assays (see below). The C-terminally truncated RTs (M1KA and MIBA) have lengths that fall in between the 5 lengths of the native α and β polypeptides. Relative to the alpha fragment of MAV-RT, the beta fragment has an additional 254 amino acids at the C-terminus, which provides an integrase activity. This region of the polypeptide contributes to the insolubility of the polypeptide and reduces its recovery from cell extracts, as shown by the relative insolubility of a (+) integrase form of RT (e.g., the M1KA gene product, see below) 10 compared to a (-) integrase form (e.g., the MIBA gene product). Because the integrase domain is only needed for the retroviral life cycle and not for the RNA- or DNA-dependent DNA polymerase activities, this region was deleted in MIBA (α -like fragment). Note that the M1BA α -like fragment (amino acids 1-578 of SEQ ID NO:2) is larger than the naturally occurring α fragment of MAV-RT (amino acids 1-573 of SEQ ID NO:2). 15 Without wishing to be bound by theory, this deletion was expected to result in an increase in the solubility, and hence recovery, of the protein.

A series of clones was constructed to express the M1BA and M1KA series of modified RTs, which have C-terminal deletions in order to increase the levels of expression and to stabilize the RT activity (RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity). Convenient 20 restriction sites in full-length clones such as PMBacRT and pHRT, e.g., *Bgl* II (spanning nucleotides 1,986-1,991 of SEQ ID NO:1) and *Kpn*I (spanning nucleotides 2,745-2,750 of SEQ ID NO:1), were used to eliminate the 3' end of the coding region of the RT gene (see, Table I). The 3' deletion derivatives, encoding RT polypeptide fragments having C-terminal deletions, were obtained by *Bgl*II-*Pst*I or *Kpn*I-*Pst*I restrictions of pMBAcRT and 25 pHRT, respectively (*Bgl* II and *Kpn*I sites in the MAV-RT coding region; *Pst*I site in the vector). Recombinant molecules containing the *Bgl* II-*Pst*I 3' terminal deletion were designated pBacMIBA and pHBRT (pH33 Δ BP6) and recombinant molecules containing the *Kpn*I-*Pst*I deletion were designated pBacMIKA and pHKRT (pH33 Δ KP5). The 30 deletion derivatives pBacMIBA and pBacMIKA had approximately 1.17 and 0.4 kb deletions from the 3' end of the full-length gene (see, SEQ ID NO:1), respectively. The fragment bounded at its 3' end by the *Bgl*II site (SEQ ID NO:6) was used to express an alpha-like RT fragment (the α -like fragment, M1BA, contained amino acids 1-578 of SEQ ID NO:2; native MAV-RT α contains amino acids 1-572 of SEQ ID NO:2) and the

fragment bounded by the *Kpn*I site (SEQ ID NO 8) was used to express a beta-like RT fragment (the β -like fragment, M1KA, contained amino acids 1-832 of SEQ ID NO:2; native MAV-RT β contains amino acids 1-858 of SEQ ID NO 2)

Miniprep and sequencing analyses were done to confirm the identities of the
5 recombinant clones described above. Recombinant viruses obtained from co-transfection with virus BacPak6 and transfer vector pBacMIBA or pBacMIKA were called MIBA and MIKA, respectively

B. Alpha-like recombinants encoding non-native terminal peptides

1. Simple peptide tags

10 One category of α fragment modifications was designed to mimic one or more properties of the integrase domain found in the β fragment but missing from the α fragment of Type III RTs. Partial mimicking of the integrase domain, without the deleterious impact on solubility and host cell viability associated with the native integrase domain, was accomplished by adding polynucleotide sequences encoding His tags at the 3' ends of the
15 modified RT coding regions

A His-tag addition to the C-terminus of an RT polypeptide was achieved by recombinant expression of a polynucleotide containing an RT coding region fused in-frame to His codons. In particular, the fusions were constructed by adding oligonucleotides containing 6 histidine codons to the 3' end of the RT gene using ligase, as in the case of the
20 construction of pBacMIKAHis, or by PCR amplification with oligonucleotides that specified 6 histidine codons, as in the case of the construction of pBacMIBAHis

The basic nature of the added His amino acids was expected to increase binding to the negatively charged nucleic acids, enhancing the stability of the polypeptides. The increased stability, in turn, was expected to result in increased activity of amino-acid-tagged RTs,
25 relative to their untagged counterparts. In addition, the His tags were expected to chelate metal ions (e.g., Ni⁺⁺), thereby potentiating polymerization of the modified RTs. A His-tagged RT (MIBAHis) was found in homo-polymeric form (molecular weight greater than 200 kDa), as determined using non-denaturing PAGE and molecular sieve chromatography with Superose 12HR10/30 (separation range of 1-300 kDa, Pharmacia-Upjohn)
30 Expression levels of the RT fragments modified by amino acid tagging showed that the structurally unstable alpha fragment was stabilized by addition of peptide tags to the C-terminus of the Δ MV-RT alpha fragment

Other modified RTs bearing peptides at the C-terminus of the α -like fragment were generated by PCR, as described above. The forward and reverse PCR primers had codons corresponding to the N- and C-termini of the AMV-RT alpha fragment, along with codons corresponding to the peptide tags to be added. A linearized template (pHS1:M1) containing the full-length RT gene was used for the PCR amplifications. Additional information concerning this class of modified RTs, as well as the polynucleotides encoding them, is found in Table II.

The PCR product was restricted with a suitable restriction enzyme and ligated to pBacPak⁹ that was digested with a compatible enzyme. The selected recombinants were sequenced to confirm addition of the appropriate tags.

2. C-terminal peptides exhibiting DNA binding properties

DNA binding motifs of proteins, may have either general affinity (*i.e.*, non-specific binding) or sequence-specific affinity for DNA. Several nucleic acid binding domains have been identified and reported to play a role in important cellular functions such as viral packaging, transcriptional and translational regulation, transport between the nucleus and cytoplasm, splicing, and stability, among others. Karaya, et al., J. Biol. Chem. 266:11621-11627 (1991), Burd, et al., Science 265:615-621 (1994), Weiss, et al., Biopolymers 48(2-3):167-180 (1998), Nassal, M., J. Virol. 66(7):4107-16 (1992) Ritt, et al., Biochemistry 37:2673-81 (1998). DNA binding domains with general affinity are preferable to target-specific binding domains because of the reduced substrate specificity of modified RTs having such general binding domains.

Several basic amino acids are known to enhance the affinity of a protein for nucleic acid templates. The positive charges of arginine, lysine, and histidine increase the non-specific affinity of polypeptides containing such residues for nucleic acid, thereby facilitating the search for specific binding sites. Several arginine-rich motifs and arginine-lysine-rich motifs have been identified in nucleic acid binding domains. The arginine-lysine rich motif ELKIKRLRKFAQKMLRKARRK is involved in RNA binding, which could enhance the activity of RT. In addition, a lysine-rich protein is associated with DNA in the kinetoplast and plays a role in segregation of the kinetoplast DNA. Hines, Mol. and Biochem. Parasitol. 94:41-52 (1998). Similarly, acidic amino acid tags are reported to be involved in packaging of viral DNA. The packaging may be mediated through metal ions that have affinity for DNA International Patent Publication No WO 98/07869. Additionally, charged amino acids are

present on the surface of structural proteins and may play a role in stabilizing secondary structures.

The addition of histidine, glutamic acid, and aspartic acid tags enhanced the activity of the alpha fragment 20-100 fold. A peptide tag consisting of six arginine residues improved 5 the activity five-fold. However, specific arginine-rich motifs such as RNRNRQY (Arg3X4, found at the C-terminus of the GP67 envelope glycoprotein proposed to be involved in baculoviral DNA packaging) enhanced (*i.e.*, increased or prolonged) activity by 20- to 40-fold. Other RNA- and DNA-binding motifs such as RRRDRGRS are expected to yield similar results. However, six continuous lysine residues did not increase the activity. A higher 10 number of lysine residues or correct spacing of the lysine residues may be required for enhancement of function.

The mechanism of enhancement of activity due to these tags could be due to the increased structural stability of the recombinant or stability resulting from direct or metal-mediated nucleic acid binding.

15	M1BA	2000-3000 Units/g of insect cells
	M1BA his	50000-200,000 U/g
	M1BA arg6	15,750 U/g
	M1BA lys6	2050 U/g
	M1BA Arg3X4	57,000 U/g
20	M1BA glu6	170,000 U/g
	M1BA asp6	40,000 U/g
	M1BA leu6	2250-3900 U/g
	Nhis M1BA asp4	95,000 U/g
	Nhis M1BA asp5	115,250 U/g
25	Nhis M1BA asp6	236,250 U/g

Most of the sequence-specific DNA binding proteins have a general basic region and a sequence-specific region for binding to DNA. There are several sequence-specific DNA binding motifs such as zinc-finger domains (*e.g.*, TFIIB1A CX2CX12HX3II) and the basic region of the bZIP family of proteins. Similarly, there are arginine-rich domains such as 30 TRQARRNRRWRARQR and YGRKKRRQRRRP that recognize specific RNA sequences that are also expected to enhance the activity of RT. The N-terminus of the RT integrase domain has a zinc-finger-like (Hx3IIX23CX2C) motif. This N-terminus binds zinc and has been reported to both induce proper folding of the N-terminus, to be remarkably thermostable

as well. Burke et al., J. Biol. Chem. 267: 9639-44 (1992). Because the full-length MAV-RT gene has a zinc-finger-like domain, the reverse primer used in some PCR amplifications included this region of the integrase (see Table II).

A beta-like derivative (620 amino acids) containing the zinc-finger-like motif was 5 more active than the non-tagged alpha fragment (578 amino acids) and expressed 30,000 units per gram of cell pellet.

M1BK620 31,950 U/g

M1BK620 his 50,000-140,000 U/g

The addition of the sequence-specific, zinc-finger-like motif produced a lower level of RT 10 activity than the His-tagged fragment, however. These results suggest that a general nucleic acid binding domain (His tag) may enhance RT activity to a greater extent than a sequence-specific domain (zinc-finger-like motif) and, therefore, could replace the sequence-specific zinc-finger-like motif of RT, leading to an increase in activity. General nucleic acid binding domains enhance the stability of both the 578- and the 620-amino-acid-length fragments.

15 3. C-terminal peptide tags having polymerization domains

Disulfide bond-forming domains (i.e., cysteine-rich regions) present in immunoglobulin genes are involved in disulfide bond formation between the light and heavy chains. Hence, addition of two cysteine residues at the C-terminus was anticipated to promote dimer formation through disulfide bonding.

20 Addition of two cysteine residues enhanced the activity of the alpha-like fragment, however, 6 contiguous cysteine residues reduced the activity of the modified RT.

M1BA 2000-3000 U/g

M1BA cyst2 190,000 U/g

M1BA cyst6 720 U/g

25 The GPRP (fibrin clotting) tetrapeptide is the primary polymerization pocket of the blood clotting protein fibrin. This domain is exposed at the amino terminus of fibrin monomers by proteolytic cleavage of the precursor protein. The domain then polymerizes by binding to complementary binding sites on other fibrinogen molecules to form clots. Because peptides were being added to the C-terminus of α -like constructs, the reverse-sequence 30 tetrapeptide, PRPG, was also examined.

Addition of GPRP enhanced the RT activity approximately 50-fold, while addition of PRPG enhanced the activity of RT by approximately 100-fold. In other embodiments, the D-

isomers of amino acids are used in peptide tags. For example, D-isomers are used in generating PRPG peptides for use in preparing modified RT's of the invention.

M1BA	2000-3000 U/g
M1BA GPRP	107,500 U/g
5 M1BA PRPG	243,500 U/g

Histidine residues can also promote dimer formation mediated by metal ions. The addition of 6 His residues to the C-terminus of the α -like RT resulted in a 20- to 40-fold increase in activity. Additions of different length histidine tags are contemplated.

M1BA	2000-3000 U/g
10 M1BA his	50000-200000 U/g

NS1 is a DNA-binding protein produced by the minute virus of mice. The protein has replicational and transcriptional functions. Homo-oligomerization of NS1 is required for its function and a small region, N-VETTVTTAQETKRGRIQTK-C, of NS1 has been identified as the domain involved in oligomerization. Pujol et al., J. Virol. 71:7393-7403 (1997)

15 Addition of this peptide tag to the C-terminus of AMV-RT fragments enhanced RT activity.

M1BA	2000-3000 U/g
M1BA NS1	380,000 U/g

4. C-terminal peptide tags having metal binding domains

Histidine tags can be used as metal binding domains, as explained above. In addition, modified RTs having C-terminal His tags were constructed and subjected to expression analyses. The results, presented above, indicate that peptide tags, having metal binding capacity, enhance RT expression.

Zinc fingers also exhibit metal binding capacity and are also involved in DNA binding. As described above, the N-terminus of the integrase domain of MAV-RT has a zinc-finger-like 25 (Hx3Hx23Cx2C) motif. This N-terminus binds zinc and has been reported to induce proper folding of the N-terminus. It is expected that peptide tags containing one or more zinc-finger-like domains will enhance the activity of modified RTs in which they are found.

5. C-terminal peptide tags having structure-stabilizing domains

Other embodiments of the invention involve the addition of domains designed to structurally stabilize the alpha-like fragment so that it no longer requires a second fragment for structural stability. There are several motifs that have been identified and shown to form specific structures, such as alpha helices, beta sheets, and coils, among others, all of which are known in the art. Formation of defined structures facilitates the formation of active domains.

and promotes interactions with other such domains. Beta strands and beta sheets frequently promote aggregation in, and precipitation from, solution. DesJarlais et al. *Curr. Opin. in Biotechnol.* 6:400-406 (1995). Hence, most of the C-terminal tag additions were capable of forming helices or coils. These secondary structure predictions are based on the well-known

5 Chou and Fassman algorithms.

The WEAH (WH) motif, comprising histidine and tryptophan, promotes formation of alpha helices, or defined structures, thereby giving structural stability to the protein.

M1BA 2000-3000 U/g

M1BA WH 104,720 U/g

10 Addition of the WH domain may extend the helix at the C-terminus and thereby enhancing the stability of the alpha fragment. Regardless of the reason, however, modified RTs containing a WH motif exhibit enhanced RT activity.

15 The "PPG" triple-helical domain is responsible for binding interactions in the structural protein collagen. This motif is responsible for the structural stability and proper assembly of collagen. Addition of peptides containing this motif in generating modified RTs according to the invention is expected to enhance the activity of such RTs relative to corresponding RTs lacking such peptides.

20 Addition of tryptophan residues is predicted to extend the α -helix at the C-terminus and to enhance the stability of the alpha-like fragment. Tryptophan is a bulky amino acid and could substitute for histidine tags in providing structural stability. Comparative assays showed that a domain comprising Trp residues enhanced RT activity approximately 50-fold.

M1BA 2000-3000 U/g

M1BA Trp 96,500 U/g

25 The GPRP and PRPG motifs identified in fibrin as the domains involved in interaction with other clotting proteins enhance the activity of the AMV-RT alpha-like fragment. This motif is predicted to form coil-turn-coil structures.

M1BA 2000-3000 U/g

M1BA GPRP 107,500 U/g

M1BA PRPG 243,500 U/g

30 The NSI domain primarily forms beta sheets and coils. The presence of hydrophobic residues alone is not very desirable because they form beta sheets and are typically buried in the secondary structure of the protein. This may affect the natural folding of domains. Hence,

a motif that had a mixture of coils and beta sheets was chosen for analysis. Addition of this domain produced an active α -like fragment that appeared to be stable

M1BA	2000-3000 U/g
M1BA NS1	380,000 U/g

5 The leucine zipper motif is a helix-turn-helix motif which has been reported to dimerize by a coiled-coil interaction. This defined structure of the leucine zipper is expected to enhance the stability of the alpha-like fragment in addition to providing dimerization abilities.

M1BA	2000-3000 U/g
10 M1BA Lzip23	7170 U/g
M1BA Lzip3	1620 U/g

Addition of a single heptad repeat enhanced the activity by 2-3 fold. Addition of two heptad repeats did not improve the activity. However, additions of 4-5 heptad repeats produced RTs that had reduced activity levels.

15 6. N-terminal peptide tags

Consistent with the description in Examples 3 and 4 of N-terminal peptide tags being added to modified RTs that exhibited enhanced expression, several constructs were generated and characterized. One modified RT, NhisM1BA, contained a His tag attached to the N-terminus of an α -like fragment. Other RTs were modified to contain peptide tags at both 20 termini (Nhis M1BA asp 4, Nhis M1BA asp 5, Nhis M1BA asp 6, and Nhis M1BA WH). Expression studies conducted as described in Example 4 led to the results shown below.

Nhis M1BA	10,000-41,700 U/g
MIBAChis	50,000-200,000 U/g
Nhis M1BA asp 4	95,000 U/g
25 Nhis M1BA asp 5	115,250 U/g
Nhis M1BA asp 6	236,250 U/g
Nhis M1BA WH	86,000 U/g

Expression of MIBAChis was measured to provide a relative control for the measurement of Nhis M1BA expression. The results show that activity of RTs modified by a His tag present 30 at either the N-terminus or the C-terminus is increased relative to untagged RTs. Other variations, such as the addition of peptide tags to both termini of an RT (*e.g.*, an N-terminal His tag coupled to a C-terminal Asp-, Glu-, or Trp-His- (*i.e.*, WH) tag), are also contemplated by the invention. Large-scale expression studies have shown that similar activity levels of

approximately 100,000 units/g insect cells are achieved with M1BA asp (N-terminally modified RT) and Nhis M1BA asp (RT having 6 His residues at the N-terminus and 4-6 Asp residues at the C-terminus)

7. Peptide tagging of other Type III RTs

5 The strategies described above were also used to modify RTs from other avian sources, such as Rous Sarcoma Virus and Avian Tumor Virus. The C-terminal addition of a six-histidine peptide tag to an alpha fragment of each of these avian RTs substantially increased the RT activity, relative to the non-tagged AMV-RT α -like fragment.

M1BA	2000-3000 U/g
10 RSV-RT	43,350 U/g
ATV-RT	71,900 U/g

Therefore, the modification strategies applied to AMV-RT polynucleotides and polypeptides are applicable more generally to dimeric (*i.e.*, Type II and Type III) reverse transcriptase coding regions and polypeptides, and all of these modified RTs fall within the scope of the 15 present invention.

C. Beta-like recombinants

Modifications of β RT

Polynucleotides encoding a variety of beta-like modified RTs were constructed using the techniques described in Example 3 and expressed using the techniques described in 20 Example 4, along with M1-5.6 encoding the full-length AMV-RT. Expression of the full-length beta fragment resulted in low levels of highly insoluble, full-length protein, in both a eukaryotic (insect cell) and a prokaryotic (*E. coli*) host. Because expression of the full-length beta fragment resulted in mostly insoluble protein, the native beta polypeptide was modified in an effort to increase its solubility and, hence, activity. One strategy for modifying the β 25 fragment involved deletions of parts of the native β RT. The native beta coding region specifies 858 amino acids and the full-length β -like fragment disclosed herein consists of 832 amino acids. Thus, the β -like fragment lacks the 26 C-terminal amino acids of full-length native β . Expression of the full-length β -like polypeptide, relative to the full-length native β , showed an increase of one-hundred-fold in expression, as evidenced by SDS-PAGE analysis. 30 However, the β -like polypeptide was still highly insoluble (approximately 90% insoluble), resulting in a five-fold increase in activity.

MIKA	1000 U/Liter of cells
MIKAhis	2,000 U/L

M1-5 200 U/L.

Modified RTs having C-termini between 580 and 832 amino acids (see SEQ ID NO 2) are also contemplated by the invention. Because both the 580- and the 620-amino-acid recombinants are soluble, and the 832- and 858-amino-acid recombinants are relatively insoluble, deletions that truncate the C-terminus to a position between 580-832 amino acids are expected to result in modified β-like polypeptides that are soluble. In particular embodiments, the β-like polypeptide has a C-terminus at any one of positions 580-832, such as positions 620, 640, 660, 740, 780, or 800 (SEQ ID NO 2), resulting from deletions that eliminate 237, 217, 197, 117, 77 and 57 amino acids, respectively, relative to the full-length β RT. Construction and expression of a deletion derivative specifying a modified β-like RT of 620 amino acids was accomplished as generally described in Examples 3 and 4, with the expression results presented below.

M1BA 2000-3000 U/g

M1KA 1000 U/L

M1BK 620 31,950 U/g

Thus, a truncated β-like RT shows considerable activity, consistent with an increase in solubility relative to the full-length native β RT.

Analogous modifications to the corresponding β polypeptides of other avian RTs result in similarly increased RT activity.

RSV-RT 620 his 33,000 U/g

In addition to 3' deletions resulting in polynucleotides encoding β-like polypeptides having C-termini in the range of positions 580-832, and preferably in the range of 620-800 (SEQ ID NO 2), the invention contemplates polynucleotides having internal deletions relative to the native β gene, as well as the polypeptides encoded by polynucleotides having such internal deletions. The central core region of the integrase domain is associated with the DNA cutting and joining properties of the native AMV-RT.

The core region of the integrase domain was deleted to varying extents (the region between amino acids 620-770, 640-770 or 660-770 of SEQ ID NO 2), e.g., M1BK Cint lacks amino acids 620-770 of SEQ ID NO 2, using conventional techniques. The approach involved the initial construction of first polynucleotide fragments encoding C-terminally truncated β-like fragments using PCR with the full-length AMV-RT *pol* gene as a template (see Table II). Second fragments containing various lengths the 3' of the end of the *pol* gene

(*i.e.*, 3' fragment) were also constructed using PCR. These 3' fragments encoded the C-terminal region of the integrase domain, some 3' fragments also contained part, but not all, of the core region of the integrase domain. Those of skill in the art will recognize that the first polynucleotide fragments, or 5' fragments, may encode peptide tags at their 5' ends, the 3' fragments may also encode peptide tags (see *e.g.*, 3' Fragment 2a in Table II), with or without tags encoded by the 5' fragment, and these tag-encoding fragments are readily synthesized using the PCR primers disclosed herein (*e.g.*, F Cint XhoI (SEQ ID NO:85) and R Cint 830 His XhoI (SEQ ID NO 91)). The final step in generating constructs having internal deletions was to ligate truncated β -like coding regions to 3' fragments in proper order and orientation. as determined by the conventional screening of ligation products. In one embodiment, amino acids 620-770 were deleted, thereby removing the core region of the integrase domain. The C-terminal region of the integrase domain was then placed adjacent to the N-terminal region of that domain

Expression of such constructs in insect cells revealed an increase in solubility (10-20%) and activity relative to the full-length, intact β RT, as shown below. Other deletions effectively removing part or all of the central region of the integrase domain, such as the deletion of amino acids 620-731, 640-771, 640-731, 660-771, 660-731, 680-771, 680-731, and 740-771 (SEQ ID NO 2) are contemplated by the invention.

MIKA 1000 U/L
20 M1-5 200 U/L

Some modified beta fragments have terminal peptide tags. Thus, the invention contemplates modified RTs having internal deletions and, optionally, peptide tags at an N-terminus, a C-terminus or both termini. In addition, as for α -like modified RTs, the β -like modified RTs may be derived from any Type II or Type III RT, along with polynucleotides encoding them.

Any of the modified RTs of the invention may be produced by any process disclosed herein or known in the art, such as *in vivo* synthesis, *in vitro* synthesis or chemical synthesis. Further, any of these processes may be used to produce active polypeptides in a variety of forms, including monomers, homo-dimers or homo-multimers, hetero-dimers, and hetero-multimers, all of which are comprehended by the invention. In particular, expression of the modified beta-like fragment M1BK620 Cint resulted in expression of a heterodimeric form of RT, suggesting that the beta-like fragment was processed as expected, to yield an α polypeptide in association with a modified β -like polypeptide. Expression of other modified

RTs of the invention, such as other core domain deletions (e.g., β -like fragments lacking amino acids 620-731, 640-771, 640-731, 660-771, 660-731, 680-771, 680-731, or 740-771 of SEQ ID NO 2) are expected to show activity in other than monomeric form, e.g., in heterodimeric form. In addition, heterodimers or other non-monomeric forms may arise from the interaction 5 of a modified α -like polypeptide and a native β polypeptide, or from a modified α -like polypeptide and a modified β -like polypeptide, regardless of whether the polypeptides were produced by *in vivo* or *in vitro* expression, or by chemical synthesis.

While the present invention has been described in terms of specific embodiments, it is understood that variations and modifications will occur to those skilled in the art. 10 Accordingly, only those limitations appearing in the appended claims should be placed upon the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. An isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide having RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity, the polypeptide consisting of
 - (a) an amino acid sequence beginning at amino acid 1 and terminating at any one of amino acids 428 to 857 of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (b) an amino acid sequence beginning at amino acid 1 and terminating at any one of amino acids 428 to 1054 of SEQ ID NO:39;
 - (c) an amino acid sequence beginning at amino acid 1 and terminating at any one of amino acids 548 to 1198 of SEQ ID NO:41;
 - (d) an amino acid sequence beginning at amino acid 1 and terminating at any one of amino acids 428 to 901 of SEQ ID NO:43; and
 - (e) variants, analogs and fragments of any of subparts (a) to (e) having RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity,
said polypeptide, variants, analogs, and fragments optionally having an N-terminal methionine.
2. The polynucleotide according to claim 1 step (a) wherein said polypeptide consists of a sequence that begins at about amino acid 1 and ends at about amino acid 578 of SEQ ID NO:2.
3. The polynucleotide according to claim 1 step (a) wherein said polypeptide consists of the sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO:4.
4. The polynucleotide according to claim 1 having a sequence selected from the group consisting of a sequence set forth in any one of SEQ ID NOS 1, 6-10, 38, 40, and 42.
5. The polynucleotide according to claim 1 wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.
- 25
6. The polynucleotide according to claim 1 wherein said polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide that lacks an effective integrase activity.

7. The polynucleotide according to claim 6 wherein said polynucleotide lacks at least part of an integrase coding region.

5 8. The polynucleotide according to claim 1 further comprising an adjacent polynucleotide encoding at least one terminal modification of said polypeptide selected from the group consisting of an N-terminal modification and a C-terminal modification.

9. The polynucleotide according to claim 8 wherein said modification is a cysteine residue adjacent the C-terminus of said polypeptide.

10 10. The polynucleotide according to claim 8 wherein said adjacent polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide consisting of a C-terminal modification.

15 11. The polynucleotide according to claim 10 wherein said C-terminal polypeptide comprises between four and fifty amino acids and wherein said polypeptide comprises a domain selected from the group consisting of a DNA binding domain, an RNA binding domain, a metal binding domain, a structure stabilizing domain, and a polymerizing domain.

20 12. The polynucleotide according to claim 11 wherein said polypeptide comprises an acidic amino acid domain, a basic amino acid domain, a W domain, a WH domain, a zinc-finger-like domain, a leucine zipper domain, a PPG domain, an NS1 domain, a GPRP domain, and a PRPG domain.

13. The polynucleotide according to claim 11 wherein said C-terminal peptide comprises six amino acids.

14. The polynucleotide according to claim 11 wherein said C-terminal peptide comprises amino acids that are the same.

15. The polynucleotide according to claim 11 wherein said C-terminal peptide comprises amino acids that are basic.
16. The polynucleotide according to claim 15 wherein said basic amino acids are histidine.
- 5 17. The polynucleotide according to claim 8 having a sequence selected from the group consisting of a sequence set forth in any one of SEQ ID NOS 11-19.
18. A vector comprising the polynucleotide according to claim 1.
19. The vector according to claim 18 wherein said polynucleotide is operably linked to a promoter.
- 10 20. A host cell transformed with a vector according to claim 18.
21. The host cell according to claim 20 wherein said host cell is a eukaryotic cell.
22. The host cell according to claim 20 wherein said host cell is selected from the group consisting of *Escherichia coli* and an insect cell.
- 15 23. An isolated polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide according to any one of claims 1 to 5.
24. An isolated polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide according to any one of claims 6 to 17.
- 20 25. A method of transforming host cells comprising the following steps:
 - (a) introducing a vector according to claim 18 into host cells;
 - (b) incubating said host cells; and

(c) identifying host cells containing said vector, thereby identifying a transformed host cell.

26. A method of producing an isolated Reverse Transcriptase polypeptide comprising the following steps:

5 (a) transforming a host cell with a vector according to claim 18;

(b) incubating said host cell under conditions suitable for expression of a polypeptide; and

(c) recovering said polypeptide, thereby producing an isolated Reverse Transcriptase.

10 27. In a method for copying a target nucleic acid by extending a target nucleic acid bound primer in the presence of a polymerase, the improvement comprising:

(a) contacting said target nucleic acid and primer with the polypeptide according to any one of claims 23 and 24.

15 28. The method according to claim 27 wherein said copying produces a plurality of copies of said target nucleic acid.

29. The method according to claim 27 wherein said polypeptide is in a form selected from the group consisting of a monomer and a polymer.

20 30. The method according to claim 27 wherein said method is selected from the group consisting of cDNA synthesis, Polymerase Chain Reaction, Polymerase Chain Reaction-Reverse Transcription, Inverse Polymerase Chain Reaction, Multiplex Polymerase Chain Reaction, Strand Displacement Amplification, Multiplex Strand Displacement Amplification, Nucleic Acid Sequence-Based Amplification, Sequence-Specific Strand Replication and Rapid Amplification.

25 31. In a method for sequencing a target nucleic acid by extending a target nucleic acid-bound primer, the improvement comprising:

(a) contacting said target nucleic acid and primer with the polypeptide according to any one of claims 23 and 24.

32. The method according to claim 31 wherein said polypeptide is in a form selected from the group consisting of a monomer and a polymer.

5 33. A kit for copying a target nucleic acid comprising:

(a) one or more nucleotides, and

(b) a polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide having a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO 6, SEQ ID NO 7, SEQ ID NO 8, SEQ ID NO 9, SEQ ID NO 11, SEQ ID NO 12, SEQ ID NO 13, SEQ ID NO 38, SEQ ID NO 40, SEQ ID NO 42 and polynucleotide derivatives thereof encoding C-terminal modifications at their 3' ends.

10

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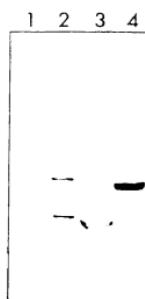


Fig. 1

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Fig. 2

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Fig. 3

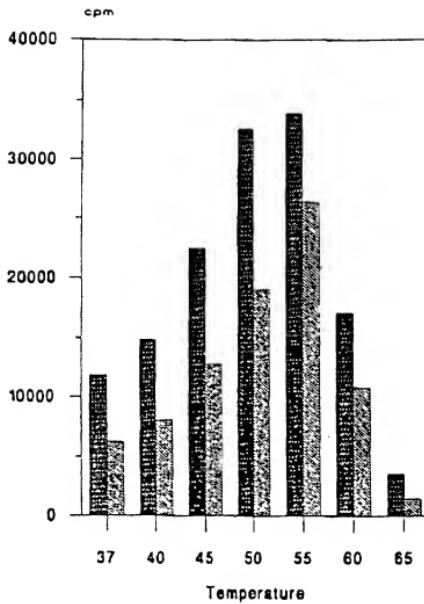


Fig. 4A

5/9

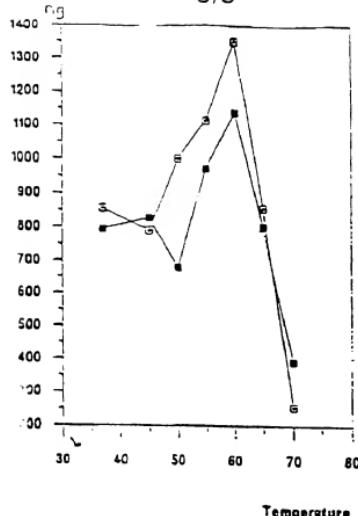


Fig. 4B

RAMP Temperature Profile

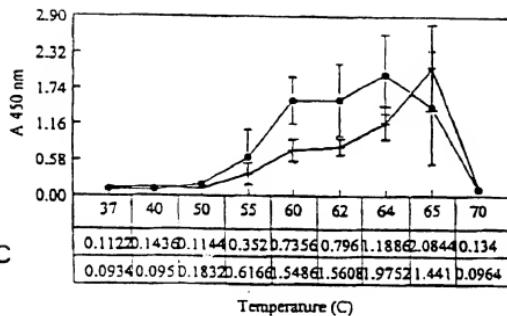


Fig. 4C

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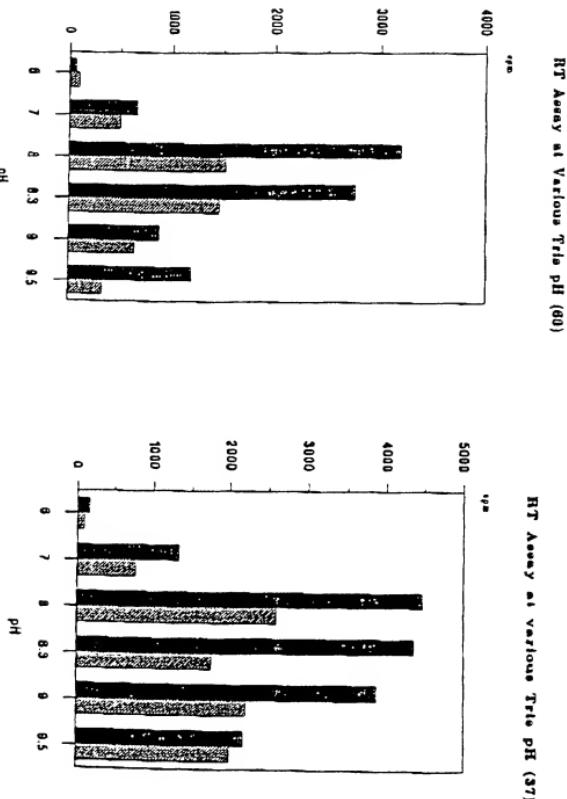


Fig. 4D

Fig. 4E

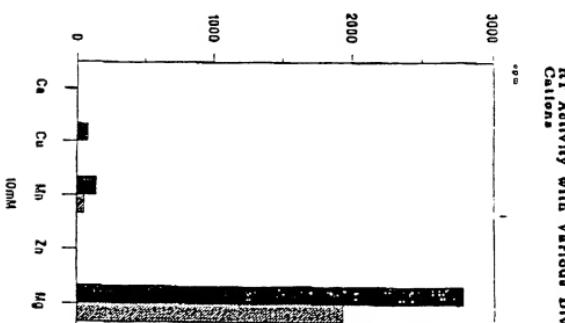
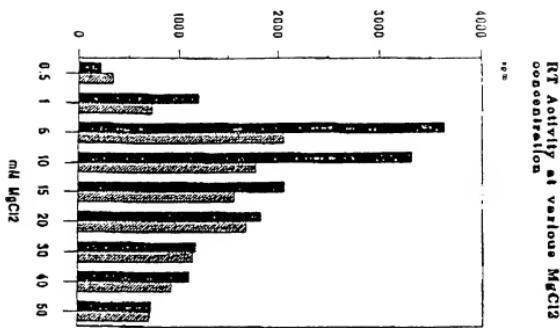


Fig. 4F

Fig. 4G

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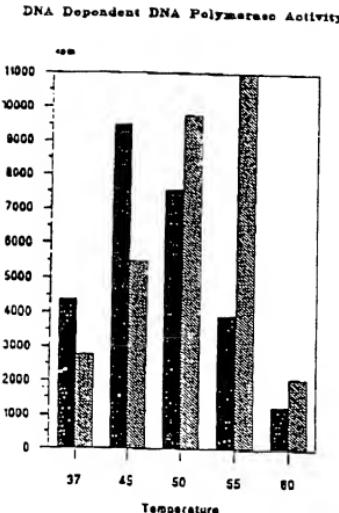


Fig. 5

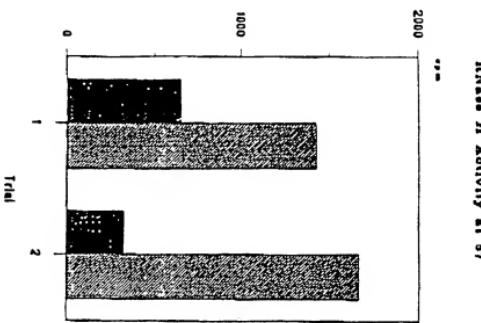


Fig. 6A

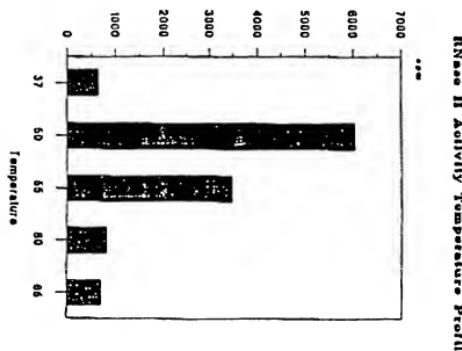


Fig. 6B

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4,110,581 Swaminathan, Neelai (inventor)
MOLECULAR BIOLOGY RESOURCES, INC.

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Fra Glu Gly Ile Leu Leu Ala Leu Lys Gly Ile Ala Gly Lys Ile Arg
405 410 415

5 Ser Ser Asp Thr Pro Ser Ile Phe Asp Ile Ala Arg Pro Leu His Val
420 425 430

Ser Leu Lys Val Arg Val Thr Asp His Pro Val Pro Gly Pro Thr Val
435 440 445

Phe Thr Asp Ala Ser Ser Thr His Lys Gly Val Val Val Trp Arg
10 450 455 460

Glu Gly Pro Arg Trp Glu Ile Lys Glu Ile Ala Asp Leu Gly Ala Ser
465 470 475 480

Val Gln Gln Leu Glu Ala Arg Ala Val Ala Met Ala Leu Leu Leu Trp
485 490 495

15 Pro Thr Thr Pro Thr Asn Val Val Thr Asp Ser Ala Phe Val Ala Lys
500 505 510

Met Leu Leu Lys Met Gly Gln Glu Gly Val Pro Ser Thr Ala Ala Ala
515 520 525

Phe Ile Leu Glu Asp Ala Leu Ser Gln Arg Ser Ala Met Ala Ala Val
20 530 535 540

Leu His Val Arg Ser His Ser Glu Val Pro Gly Phe Phe Thr Glu Gly
545 550 555 560

Asn Asp Val Ala Asp Ser Gln Ala Thr Phe Gln Ala Tyr Pro Ile Arg
565 570 575

25 Glu Ala Lys Asp Leu His Thr Ala Ile His Ile Gly Pro Arg Ala Leu
580 585 590

Ser Lys Ala Cys Asn Ile Ser Met Gln Gln Ala Arg Glu Val Val Gln
595 600 605

Thr Cys Pro His Cys Asn Ser Ala Pro Ala Leu Glu Ala Gly Val Asn
30 610 615 620

Pro Arg Gly Leu Gly Pro Leu Cln Ile Trp Gln Thr Asp Phe Thr Leu
 625 630 635 640
 Glu Ile Arg Met Ala Pro Arg Ser Trp Leu Ala Val Thr Val Asp Thr
 645 650 655
 5 Ala Ser Ser Ala Ile Val Val Thr Gln His Gly Arg Val Thr Ser Val
 660 665 670
 Ala Ala Cln His His Trp Ala Thr Ala Ile Ala Val Leu Gly Arg Pro
 675 680 685
 Lys Ala Ile Lys Thr Asp Asn Gly Ser Cys Phe Thr Ser Lys Ser Thr
 10 690 695 700
 Arg Glu Trp Leu Ala Arg Trp Gly Ile Ala His Thr Thr Gly Ile Pro
 705 710 715 720
 Gly Asn Ser Gln Gly Gln Ala Met Val Glu Arg Ala Asn Arg Leu Leu
 725 730 735
 15 Lys Asp Lys Ile Arg Val Leu Ala Glu Gly Asp Gly Phe Met Lys Arg
 740 745 750
 Ile Pro Thr Ser Lys Gln Gly Glu Leu Leu Ala Lys Ala Met Tyr Ala
 755 760 765
 Leu Asn His Phe Glu Arg Gly Glu Asn Thr Lys Thr Pro Ile Gln Lys
 20 770 775 780
 His Trp Arg Pro Thr Val Leu Thr Glu Gly Pro Pro Val Lys Ile Arg
 785 790 795 800
 Ile Glu Thr Gly Glu Trp Glu Lys Gly Trp Asn Val Leu Val Trp Gly
 805 810 815
 25 Arg Gly Tyr Ala Ala Val Lys Asn Arg Asp Thr Asp Lys Val Ile Trp
 820 825 830
 Val Pro Ser Arg Lys Val Lys Pro Asp Ile Thr Gln Lys Asp Glu Val
 835 840 845
 Thr Lys Lys Asp Glu Ala Ser Pro Leu Phe Ala Gly Ile Ser Asp Trp
 30 850 855 860

- 15 -

Ala Pro Trp Glu Gly Glu Gln Glu Gly Ieu Gln Glu Glu Thr Ala Ser
 875
 880
 885

Gln Gln Arg Pro Gly Glu Asp Thr Pro Ala Ala Asn Gln Ser
 890
 895

5

• 110 • 4
 • 111 • 578
 • 112 • PRT
 • 113 • myeloblastosis-associated virus

10 4200
 4223 • alpha (no met, no tag, no stop)

• 4400 • 4
 Thr Val Ala Leu His Leu Ala Ile Pro Leu Lys Trp Lys Pro Asn His
 1 5 10 15

15 Thr Pro Val Trp Ile Asp Gln Trp Pro Leu Pro Glu Gly Lys Leu Val
 20 25 30

Ala Leu Thr Gin Leu Val Glu Lys Glu Leu Gln Leu Gly His Ile Glu
 35 40 45

Pro Ser Leu Ser Cys Trp Asn Thr Pro Val Phe Val Ile Arg Lys Ala
 20 50 55 60

Ser Gly Ser Tyr Arg Leu Leu His Asp Leu Arg Ala Val Asn Ala Lys
 65 70 75 80

Ieu Val Pro Phe Gly Ala Val Gln Gln Gly Ala Pro Val Leu Ser Ala
 85 90 95

25 Leu Pro Arg Gly Trp Pro Leu Met Val Leu Asp Leu Lys Asp Cys Phe
 100 105 110

Phe Ser Ile Pro Leu Ala Glu Gln Asp Arg Glu Arg Phe Ala Phe Thr
 115 120 125

Leu Pro Ser Val Asn Asn Gln Ala Pro Ala Arg Arg Phe Gln Trp Lys

130 135 140
Val Leu Pro Gin Gly Met Thr Cys Ser Pro Thr Ile Cys Gln Leu Ile
145 150 155 160
Val Gly Gln Ile Leu Glu Pro Leu Arg Leu Lys His Pro Ser Leu Arg
5 165 170 175
Met Leu His Tyr Met Asp Asp Leu Leu Leu Ala Ala Ser Ser His Asp
180 185 190
Gly Leu Glu Ala Ala Gly Glu Glu Val Ile Ser Thr Leu Glu Arg Ala
195 200 205
10 Gly Phe Thr Ile Ser Pro Asp Lys Val Gln Arg Glu Pro Gly Val Gln
210 215 220
Tyr Leu Gly Tyr Lys Leu Gly Ser Thr Tyr Val Ala Pro Val Gly Leu
225 230 235 240
Val Ala Glu Pro Arg Ile Ala Thr Leu Trp Asp Val Gln Lys Leu Val
15 245 250 255
Gly Ser Leu Gln Trp Leu Arg Pro Ala Leu Gly Ile Pro Pro Arg Leu
260 265 270
Met Gly Pro Phe Tyr Glu Gin Leu Arg Gly Ser Asp Pro Asn Glu Ala
275 280 285
20 Arg Glu Trp Asn Leu Asp Met Lys Met Ala Trp Arg Glu Ile Val Gln
290 295 300
Leu Ser Thr Thr Ala Ala Leu Glu Arg Trp Asp Pro Ala Leu Pro Leu
305 310 315 320
Glu Gly Ala Val Ala Arg Cys Glu Gln Gly Ala Ile Gly Val Leu Gly
25 325 330 335
Gln Gly Leu Ser Thr His Pro Arg Pro Cys Leu Trp Leu Phe Ser Thr
340 345 350
Gln Pro Thr Lys Ala Phe Thr Ala Trp Leu Glu Val Leu Thr Ile Leu
355 360 365

Ile Thr Lys Leu Arg Ala Ser Ala Val Arg Thr Phe Gly Iys Glu Val
370 375 380

Asp Ile Leu Leu Leu Pro Ala Cys Phe Arg Glu Asp Leu Ile Leu Pro
385 390 395 400

5 Glu Gly Ile Leu Leu Ala Leu Lys Gly Phe Ala Gly Lys Ile Arg Ser
405 410 415

Ser Asp Thr Pro Ser Ile Phe Asp Ile Ala Arg Pro Leu His Val Ser
420 425 430

Leu Lys Val Arg Val Thr Asp His Pro Val Pro Gly Pro Thr Val Phe
10 435 440 445

Thr Asp Ala Ser Ser Ser Thr His Lys Gly Val Val Val Trp Arg Glu
450 455 460

Gly Pro Arg Trp Glu Ile Lys Glu Ile Ala Asp Leu Gly Ala Ser Val
465 470 475 480

15 Gln Gln Leu Glu Ala Arg Ala Val Ala Met Ala Leu Leu Leu Trp Pro
485 490 495

Thr Thr Pro Thr Asn Val Val Thr Asp Ser Ala Phe Val Ala Lys Met
500 505 510

Leu Leu Lys Met Gly Gln Glu Gly Val Pro Ser Thr Ala Ala Ala Phe
20 515 520 525

Ile Leu Glu Asp Ala Leu Ser Gln Arg Ser Ala Met Ala Ala Val Leu
530 535 540

His Val Arg Ser His Ser Glu Val Pro Gly Phe Phe Thr Glu Gly Asn
545 550 555 560

25 Asp Val Ala Asp Ser Gln Ala Thr Phe Gln Ala Tyr Pro Leu Arg Glu
565 570 575

Ala Lys

5' 3' 83%

4212> PPT

5' 3' myeloblastosis-associated virus

5' 3' 500
5 beta (no met, no tag, no stop)

4000 5
Thr Val Ala Leu His Ieu Ala Ile Pro Leu Lys Trp Lys Pro Asn His
1 5 10 15

10 Thr Pro Val Trp Ile Asp Gin Trp Pro Leu Pro Glu Gly Lys Leu Val
20 25 30

Ala Leu Thr Gin Leu Val Glu Lys Glu Leu Gln Leu Gly His Ile Glu
35 40 45

Pro Ser Leu Ser Cys Trp Asn Thr Pro Val Phe Val Ile Arg Lys Ala
50 55 60

15 Ser Gly Ser Tyr Arg Leu Leu His Asp Leu Arg Ala Val Asn Ala Lys
65 70 75 80

Leu Val Pro Phe Gly Ala Val Gln Gln Gly Ala Pro Val Leu Ser Ala
85 90 95

Leu Pro Arg Gly Trp Pro Leu Met Val Leu Asp Leu Lys Asp Cys Phe
20 100 105 110

Phe Ser Ile Pro Leu Ala Glu Gln Asp Arg Glu Arg Phe Ala Phe Thr
115 120 125

Leu Pro Ser Val Asn Asn Gln Ala Pro Ala Arg Arg Phe Gln Trp Lys
130 135 140

25 Val Leu Pro Gln Gly Met Thr Cys Ser Pro Thr Ile Cys Gln Leu Ile
145 150 155 160

Val Gly Gln Ile Leu Glu Pro Leu Arg Leu Lys His Pro Ser Leu Arg
165 170 175

Met Leu His Tyr Met Asp Asp Leu Leu Leu Ala Ala Ser Ser His Asp
30 180 185 190

Gly Leu Glu Ala Ala Gly Glu Glu Val Ile Ser Thr Leu Glu Arg Ala
 145 200 205

Gly Ile Thr Ile Ser Ile Asp Lys Val Gln Arg Glu Pro Gly Val Gln
 210 215 220

5 Tyr Leu Gly Tyr Lys Leu Gly Ser Thr Tyr Val Ala Pro Val Gly Leu
 225 230 235 240

Val Ala Glu Pro Arg Ile Ala Thr Leu Trp Asp Val Gln Lys Leu Val
 245 250 255

Gly Ser Leu Gln Trp Leu Arg Pro Ala Leu Gly Ile Pro Pro Arg Leu
 10 260 265 270

Met Gly Pro Phe Tyr Glu Gln Leu Arg Gly Ser Asp Pro Asn Glu Ala
 275 280 285

Arg Glu Trp Asn Leu Asp Met Lys Met Ala Trp Arg Glu Ile Val Gln
 290 295 300

15 Leu Ser Thr Thr Ala Ala Leu Glu Arg Trp Asp Pro Ala Leu Pro Leu
 305 310 315 320

Glu Gly Ala Val Ala Arg Cys Glu Gln Gly Ala Ile Gly Val Leu Gly
 325 330 335

Gln Gly Leu Ser Thr His Pro Arg Pro Cys Leu Trp Leu Phe Ser Thr
 20 340 345 350

Gln Pro Thr Lys Ala Phe Thr Ala Trp Leu Glu Val Leu Thr Leu Leu
 355 360 365

Ile Thr Lys Leu Arg Ala Ser Ala Val Arg Thr Phe Gly Lys Gln Val
 370 375 380

25 Asp Ile Leu Leu Pro Ala Cys Phe Arg Glu Asp Leu Pro Leu Pro
 385 390 395 400

Glu Gly Ile Leu Leu Ala Leu Lys Gly Phe Ala Gly Lys Ile Arg Ser
 405 410 415

Ser Asp Thr Pro Ser Ile Phe Asp Ile Ala Arg Pro Leu His Val Ser
 30 420 425 430

- 20 -

Leu Lys Val Arg Val Thr Asp His Pro Val Pro Gly Pro Thr Val Phe
 435 440 445
 Thr Asp Ala Ser Ser Ser Thr His Lys Gly Val Val Val Trp Arg Glu
 450 455 460
 Gly Pro Arg Trp Glu Ile Lys Glu Ile Ala Asp Leu Gly Ala Ser Val
 5 465 470 475 480
 Gln Gln Leu Glu Ala Arg Ala Val Ala Met Ala Leu Leu Trp Pro
 485 490 495
 Thr Thr Pro Thr Asn Val Val Thr Asp Ser Ala Phe Val Ala Lys Met
 10 500 505 510
 Leu Leu Lys Met Gly Gln Glu Gly Val Pro Ser Thr Ala Ala Ala Phe
 515 520 525
 Ile Leu Glu Asp Ala Leu Ser Gln Arg Ser Ala Met Ala Ala Val Leu
 530 535 540
 His Val Arg Ser His Ser Glu Val Pro Gly Phe Phe Thr Glu Gly Asn
 15 545 550 555 560
 Asp Val Ala Asp Ser Gln Ala Thr Phe Gln Ala Tyr Pro Leu Arg Glu
 565 570 575
 Ala Lys Asp Leu His Thr Ala Leu His Ile Gly Pro Arg Ala Leu Ser
 20 580 585 590
 Lys Ala Cys Asn Ile Ser Met Gln Gln Ala Arg Glu Val Val Gln Thr
 595 600 605
 Cys Pro His Cys Asn Ser Ala Pro Ala Leu Glu Ala Gly Val Asn Pro
 610 615 620
 Arg Gly Leu Gly Pro Leu Gln Ile Trp Gln Thr Asp Phe Thr Leu Glu
 25 625 630 635 640
 Pro Arg Met Ala Pro Arg Ser Trp Leu Ala Val Thr Val Asp Thr Ala
 645 650 655
 Ser Ser Ala Ile Val Val Thr Gln His Gly Arg Val Thr Ser Val Ala
 30 660 665 670

Ala Gin His His Trp Ala Thr Ala Ile Ala Val Leu Gly Arg Pro Lys
 675 685 685
 Ala Ile Lys Thr Asp Asn Gly Ser Cys Ile Thr Ser Lys Ser Thr Arg
 690 695 700
 5 Glu Trp Leu Ala Arg Trp Gly Ile Ala His Thr Thr Gly Ile Pro Gly
 705 710 715 720
 Asn Ser Gln Gly Gln Ala Met Val Glu Arg Ala Asn Arg Leu Leu Lys
 725 730 735
 Asp Lys Ile Arg Val Leu Ala Glu Gly Asp Gly Phe Met Lys Arg Ile
 10 740 745 750
 Pro Thr Ser Lys Gln Gly Glu Leu Leu Ala Lys Ala Met Tyr Ala Leu
 755 760 765
 Asn His Phe Glu Arg Gly Glu Asn Thr Lys Thr Pro Ile Gln Lys His
 770 775 780
 15 Trp Arg Pro Thr Val Leu Thr Glu Gly Pro Pro Val Lys Ile Arg Ile
 785 790 795 800
 Glu Thr Gly Glu Trp Glu Lys Gly Trp Asn Val Leu Val Trp Gly Arg
 805 810 815
 Gly Tyr Ala Ala Val Lys Asn Arg Asp Thr Asp Lys Val Ile Trp Val
 20 820 825 830

210> 6
 <211> 1734
 .212> DNA
 25 <213> myeloblastosis-associated virus

<220>
 <223> alpha coding region (no met, no tag, no stop)

<400> 6
 actgttgcgc tacatctggc tattccgctc aaatggaaqc caaaccacac qcctgtgtgg 60

atggaccagt ggcccccttc tgaaggtaaa cttttagcgc taacgcatt aqtgaaaaaa 120
gaattacatg tagacatata agaacccatca cttatgttgtt qqaacacaccc ttttttttttq 180
atccggaaag ctccgggtc ttatcgctta ttgcattact tgccgcgtgt taacgctaag 240
cttggccctt ttggggccgt ccaacagggg gcccgggtc tcccgccgt cccgcgtgtt 300
5 tgccccctga tggctctaga cctcaaggat tgcttctttt ctatctct tggccaaca 360
gategcqaac gttttgcatt tacgcctccc tccgtqaata accaggcccc cgctcgaagg 420
ttccaatggc aggtcttgcc ccaaggatg acctgttctc ccactatctg tcagttgata 480
gtgggtcaaa tacttgagcc cttgcgactc aagcacccat ctctgcgcatt gttgcattat 540
atggatgatc ttttgcttagc cgcctcaagt catgatgggt tggaaagcggc aggggaggag 600
10 gttatcgatc cattggaaag agccgggttc accatttcgc ctgataaggt ccagaggagg 660
cccgagttac aatatcttgg gtacaaggta ggtatgtacgt atgtacgcacc cgtaggcctg 720
gtacgagaac ccaggatagc cacccttggtt gatgttcaga agctgggtgg gtcacttcag 780
tggcttcgcc cagcgtagg aatcccccca ccaactgtatgg qccctttta tgagcagttt 840
cgagggtcaat atcctaacga ggcgaggaa tggaatctag acatgaaaat ggctggaga 900
15 gagatcgatc agctcagcac cactgtgtcc ttggagcgtt gggaccctgc cctgcctctg 960
gaaggagcgg tcgcttagatg tgaacaggaa gcaataggaa tcctggacca gggactgtcc 1020
acacacccaa ggcattgtttt gtcgttatcc tccacccaaac ccaccaaggc gtttactgtt 1080
tggttagaaat tgctcaccct ttgttattact aagctacgtg cttcgccatg: gcaaccttt 1140
ggcaaggagg ttgtatattctt cctgttgccl gcatgttttcc gggaggacct tccgcctccgg 1200
20 gggggatcc tggtagccct taagggtttt gcaaggaaaaa tcaggagtag tgacacgcac 1260
tctatcttgc acattgcgcg tccactgcattt gtttctctga aagtgggggtt taccgaccac 1320
cctgtgcgg gacccactgtt ctttactgac gcctctcaa gcaaccataa ggggggtggta 1380

atgtttttttt adaggcccaaa gtggggatgt aaagaataatg ctqattttggg ggcaagtgtt 1440
atgtttttttt atggccatgt atggccatgt atggccatgt tggtttttttt aacccccat 1500
atgtttttttt atggccatgt ttgtttttttt gggatgtttt tcaagatggg acaggaggga 1560
atggccatgt aatggggggc tttttttttt gggatgcgt taagccaaag gtcagccatg 1620
5 atggccatgt tttttttttt gggatgcgt taagccaaag gtcagccatg 1680
atggccatgt atggccatgt atggccatgt atggccatgt atggccatgt atggccatgt atggccatgt 1734

<210> 7
<211> 1737
<212> DNA
10 <213> myeloblastosis associated virus

<220>
<223> alpha coding region (no met, no tag, stop)

<400> 7
actgttgccgc tacatctggc tttccgttc aaatggaaac caaaccacac gcctgtgtgg 60
15 attgaccagt ggcccttttc tguugttaaa ctttgtagcgc taacgcaatt agtggaaaaa 120
gaattacagt taggacatat agaaccttca ctttagtttgc ggaacacacc tgcctttgtg 180
atccggaagg ctccggggtc ttatcgctta ttgcatgact tgcgcgcgtgt taacgctaag 240
cttqttccctt ttggggccat ccacaggggg gcgcgggttc tctccgcgc cccgcgtgg 300
tgccccctqa tggtctttaga ctcacgtttt tgcctttttt ctatccctct tgcggaaaca 360
20 qatcgccaaat gttttgcatt tacqctcccc tccgtgaata accaggcccc cgctcgaaagg 420
ttccaaatggaa aggtttttggc ccaagggtatq acctgttttc ccactatctq tcagttgata 480
atdggtcaaa tacttgagcc ctliqeqactc aagcacccat ctliqeqactt gttgcattat 540
atggatgata ttttgcatacgcc cgcctcaagt catgatgggt tggauagggcc aggggaggag 600
gttatacgta cattggaaag agccgggttc accatttcgc ctgataaggt ccugaggug 660

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ccggaggatc aatatcttgg gtacaagttt ggttgtactg atgttagaccc cgttaggttg 720
atacgaaat ccagdataqc caccttggaa atqtttcaga agctgggtgg gtcacitca 780
tggcittcjec cagcgtagg aatcccgcac cgactgtatgg gccccttta tgagcagtt 840
cgagggtcag atcctaacaqg ggcgagggaa tggaatctag acatgaaaat ggctggaga 900
5      gagatcgtaa agcteageac cactgcgc ttggagcgat gggaccctgc cctgcctctg 960
gaaggagccg tcgctagatg tgaacacgggg gcaatagggg tcctgggaca gggactgtcc 1020
acacacccaa gcccatgtttt gtggctattt tccacccaac ccaccaaggc gtttactgt 1080
tggtagaaat tgctcacccct tttgattact aagctacgtg ctccggcaatg gcaacccttt 1140
ggcaaggagg ttgatactct cctgttgcct gcatgtttc gggaggacct tccgctcccg 1200
10     gagggatcc tgttagccct taaggggtt gcaggaaaaa tcaggatgt tgacacgc 1260
tcatttttgc acattgegcg tccactgcat gtttctctga aagtggggat taccgaccac 1320
cctgtgccgg gacccactgt cttaactgac gcttcctcaa gcacccataa ggggtggta 1380
gtctggaggg agggcccaag gtgggagata aaagaatag ctgatttgg ggcaagtgt 1440
caacaactgg aagcacgcgc tggccatg gcacttctgc tggccgac aacgcccact 1500
15     aatgtatgttca ctgactccgc qtttqttgcg aaaatgttac tcaagatggg acaggaggaa 1560
gtccccgtata caegcgccgc ttttattttt gaggatgcgt taagccaaag gtcagccatg 1620
gccccgttc tccacgtgcg gagtcattct gaaatgcctg gtttttcac agaaggaaat 1680
gacgtggcag atagccaaac caccttcaa gcgtatccct tgagagaggc taataaa 1737

<210> 8
20     <211> 2496
<212> DNA
<213> myeloblastosis-associated virus

<220>
<223> beta coding region (no met, no tag, no stop)

```

<400> 8
atctgttgcgc tacatctggc tatccgcgtl aaatggaaacg caaaccacacg gcttgtgtgg 60
atgtggcggtt ggcccccttc ttagggtaaa cttgttagcgt tttatcgactt agtggaaaaua 120
gaattacagt taggacataa acaacatca ctttagttgt ggaacacacc ttttttttgtg 180
5 atccggaaagg ctccgggtc ttatcgcttta ttqcatgact tgccgcgtgt taacgctaag 240
cttqttctt ttggggccgtt ccacaaagggg gcgcgggttc tttccgcgtt cccgcgttgt 300
tgccccctqa tggctctaga cctcaaggat tttttttttt ctatccctt tgcggaaaca 360
gatecgcaac gttttqcatt tacgtcccccc tccgtgaata accaggcccc cgctcqaaagg 420
ttccaatgqa aggtcttgcc ccaaggatg acctqttctc ccactatctg tcaatgtata 480
10 ggggtcaaa tacttggccc ctgcgactc aagcacccat ctctqcgcat gtgcattat 540
atggatgatc ttttgcgtac cgccctcaagt catgtgggt tggaaagcggc aggggaggag 600
gttatacgta cattggaaag agccgggttc accatttcgc ctgataaggt ccagagggag 660
cccgaggtac aatatcttgg gtacaagttt ggtgtacgt atgtacgcacc cgtaggcctg 720
gtacgagaac ccaggatagc caccttggg gatgttcaga agctgggtgg gtcacttcag 780
15 tggtttcgcc cagcggttagg aatcccqcca cgactgtatgg gccttttta tgagcgtta 840
cgagggtcag atcctaacgtt ggcgaggaa tggatctag acaatggaaat ggctggaga 900
gagatcgtaa agctcagcac cactgtgtcc ttggagcgtt gggaccctgc cctgcstctg 960
gaaggagcgg tggatcgatg tggacagggg gcaatggggg tccctggatc gggatgtttt 1020
acacacccaa ggcattttt gttgttatcc tccacccaaac ccaccaaggc gtttactgtt 1080
20 tggtttggaaat tgctcaaccct tttgttactt aacgtacgtt ctccggcagt gcaacccctt 1140
ggcaaggagg tttatccctt cttgtgtcc gcatqcttcc gggaggaccc tccgcctcccg 1200
gaggggatcc tggatcgatc tttttttttt gcaatgggggg tcaatgttgg tggatcgcc 1260
tcaatgttttgc acattgcgcg tccactgcgtt gtttctcgtt aatgtgggggtt taccgaccac 1320

- 26 -

<210> 0

<211> 2499

<212> DNA

• 513 myxomatosis-associated virus

15

but I didn't see the mark, no tag, stop!

1300

ggcaaggagg ttgataatct cctgttgtct gtatgttttc gggaggacac tccgcctccc 1200
gggggatcctt tttttttttt taagggtttt qcaaggaaaaaa tcaggatgtg tgacacgcac 1260
ttatattttttt acatgttgttcc tccactgtat gtttctctga aagtgtgggtt taccgaccac 1320
cctgtgtccgg qacccactgtt cttaactgtac gcctcctcaa gcacccataaa ggggggtgtt 1380
5 gtcctggaggg agggcccaag gtgggagata aaagaatacg ctgatittgg gcaagatgtt 1440
caacaactgg aagcacgcgc tggggccatg gcaacttctgc tggggccgac aacgcccact 1500
aatgtatgttca ctgactccgc gttttttgtcg aaaaatgttac tcaagatggg acaggaggaa 1560
gtccccgtcta cagcggccgc tttttttta gaggatqcgtaa gtcagccatg 1620
ggccggcgatc tccacgtcg gagtcatatc gaagtgtccag ggttttcac agaaggaaat 1680
10 gacgtggcag ataqccaagc cacctttcaa qcgatccct tggagagggc taaagatctc 1740
cataccgctc tccatattgg accccgcgcg statccaaag cgtgtatata atctatgcag 1800
caggctatggg aggttgttca gacctgccccg cattgtatattt cagccctgc gttggaggcc 1860
ggggtaaacc cttaggggaaa gggaccccta cagatatggc agacagactt tacacttgag 1920
cttagaatgg ccccccgttc stggctcgat gttactgtgg ataccgcctc atcggcgata 1980
15 gtcgttaactc acatggccg tggcacatcg gttgtgtcac aacatcattt ggccacggct 2040
atcgccgttt tggaaagacc aaaggccata aaaacagata atgggtccctg ctccacgtct 2100
aaatccacgc gagagggctt cgcgagatgg gggatagcac acaccacccgg gatccgggtt 2160
aattcccaagg gtcacatgtt ggttagagccg gccaacccgc tcctgaaaga taagatccgt 2220
gtgttgtgcgg agggggatgg ctttatgtaa agaatccccca ccagcaaaaca gggggaaacta 2280
20 tttagccaaagg caatqtatgc cctcaatcac tttgagatgtg gtqaaaacac aaaaacacccg 2340
atacaaaaac actggagacc taccgttctt acagaaggac ccccggttaa atacgaata 2400
gagacaggggg agtggggaaaa aggtggaaac gtgtgtgtt ggggacgggg ttagccgtt 2460

atgaaaaaca gggacactga taaggattt tggtataaa

2499

<210> 10
<211> 2686
<212> DNA
5 <213> myeloblastosis-associated virus

<220>
<223> full-length coding region (no met, no tag, stop)

<400> 10
actttgcgc tacatctggc tattccgctc aatggaaqc caaaccacac gcctgtgtq 60

10 attgaccagt ggccccttcc tqaaggtaaa ctqttagcgc taacgcaatt agtggaaaaa 120
gaattacagt taggacatat agaaccttca cttagttgtc ggaucacacc tgcgtttgt 180
atccggaagg ctccgggtc ttatcgctta ttgcataact tgccgcgtgt taacgctaag 240
cttgttcctt ttggggccgt ccaacagggg gcgcgggttc tctccgcgtc cccgcgtgt 300
tgcccccgtga tggtcataqa cctcaaggat tgcttctttt ctattccctt tgcggaacaa 360
15 gatcgcaac gtttgcatl tacgtcccc tccgtgaata accagggccc cgctcgaaagg 420
ttccaatgga aggtttgtcc ccaagggtat acctgttctc ccactatctg tcagttqata 480
gtgggtcaaa tacttgatcc ctgtgcactc augccccc tctgtgcgtt gtgtcattat 540
atggatgtc ttttgtatgc cgccctcaagt catgalgggt tggaaagcgcc aggggaggag 600
qttatcaqta cattggaaag agccgggttc accatttcgc ctgataagg. ccagagggag 660
20 ccgggatqac aatatcttgg gtacaagttt ggtatgtacgt atgtacgcacc cgtaggctg 720
gttgcagaac ccggatatac caccctgtgg gatqltcaga agctgggtgg gtcucttcag 780
tggcttcgcc cugcgatgg aatcccgcca cgactgtatgg gcccctttta tgacgatgtt 840
cgagggtcaq atccataacga gqcgagggaa tgqaatctag acatgaaaat ggctggaga 900
gagatcgtaa acgtcagcac cactgtgtcc ttggagcgat gggaccctgc cctqcccttg 960

ttatgtcaagg caatgtatgc cttcaatcac tttagtgctgtg gtggaaaacac aaaaacccgg 2340
 atccaaaaaaac attcggagacc taccqttctt acagaaaggac ccccggttaa aatacgatc 2400
 gggacagggg agtggggaaaa aggtatggaaac gtgttgttctt ggggacqggg ttatggcgt 2460
 gtaaaaaaca gggacactga taaggttatt tgggtacctt ctggaaaagt taaaacggac 2520
 5 atccaaaaaa aggtatgggt gactaagaaa gatggggcga gcctcttt tgccaggatt 2580
 tcgtactggg cccctggaa aggcgagca gaaggactcc aagaagaaaac cgccagcaac 2640
 aaqcaagaaa gccccggaga agacacccct qctgccaacg agagttaa 2688

 <210> 11
 <211> 2691
 10 <212> DNA
 <213> myeloblastosis-associated virus

 <220>
 <223> full-length coding region (met, no tag, stop)

 <400> 11
 15 atqactgttgc cgttacatct ggcttatccg ctcaaattggc agccaaacca cacggctgtg 60
 tggattgacc agtggccctt tcctgaaggt aaacttgttag cgttaacgcg attatgtggaa 120
 aaaaattac agttaggaca tatagaacct tcacttagt gctggaaacac acctgtcttt 180
 gtatccggg aggttccgg gtcttatcgc ttattgcattg acttgcgcgc tgtaacgct 240
 aadgttgttc ettttggggc cgtccaaacag ggggcggccgg ttctctccgc gctcccggt 300
 20 qattggcccc ttaggttctt agacctcaag gattgtttctt ttcttatcc tcttgccgaa 360
 caaatacgcc aatgttttgc attacgctc ccctccgtga ataaacggcc ccccgctcg 420
 aggttccat gguaggctt qccccaaaggg atgacatgtt ctccccactat ctgtcagtgg 480
 atatgtggtc aaatacttgc gccccttgcga ctcaaggcacc catctctgcg catgttgcatt 540
 tataatggatg atctttgtt aqccgctca aqtcataatgt ggttggaaqc ggcaggggag 600

gugttataca gtacatigga aagagccggg tteaccattt cgcitgataa ggtccagagg 660
gaccceggua tacaatactt tgggtacaa ttatgtatgtatc accccatagcc 720
ctgtttagcaq aaccaggat aaccacettt tggatgttc agaaacttgtt gggttcaett 780
eagtggtttccccc gccccgggtt aggaatccc caacgactta tggccccc ttatgacgag 840
5 ttacgagggt cagatctaa cgaggcgagg gaalggatac tagacatgaa aatggctgg 900
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tccacacacc caaqccatq tttgtggata ttctccaccc aaccacccaa ggctttaact 1080
gttggtag aagtgtcac ccttttgcatt acttaagctac gtgttcggc agtgcgaacc 1140
10 ttggcaagg aggttgatat cctctgttg cctgtcatgtc ttccggagga cttccgcctc 1200
ccggagggggatc tctgttage ccttaagggg tttgcaggaa aaatcaggag tagtgacacg 1260
ccatcttattt ttgacattgc gcttccactg catgtttctc tgaaagttag ggttacccac 1320
caccctgtqc cgggacccac tgcctttact gacgcctctt caagcaccacaa taagggggtg 1380
gtatgtcgaa gggaggggccc auggtggag ataaaagaaa tagctgutti gggggcaagt 1440
15 gtacaacaac ttggaaagcagc cgctgtggcc atggcacttc tgcgtggcc gacaacgcac 1500
actaatgtatc tgactgactc cgcgtttgtt gcaaaaatgt tactcaagat gggacaggag 1560
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atgtacgtgg cagataqcca agccacccat caagcgatc ccttggatc ggttaaagat 1740
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caqcgatgtt gggaggltgtl tcaqacctgc ccgcattgtt attcagcccc tgcgttggag 1860
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gagccataga a tggcccccgg ttcttgctc gctgttactg tggataccgc ctatcgccgg 1980
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5 ggttaattccc agggtaaage tatggtagag cggcccaacc ggctcttgaa agataaagatc 2220
cgtgtcttg cggaggggqa tgctttatq aaaagaatcc ccaccagcaa acagggggaa 2280
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ccgataaaaa aacactggag acctaccgtt cttacagaag gccccccgt taaaatacga 2400
atagagacag gggagtgggaa aaaaaggatgg aacgtgtgg tctggggacg aggttatqcc 2460
10 gctgtaaaa acaggcacac tgataagtt atttgggtac cctctcgaaa agttaaccg 2520
gacatcaccc aaaaggatga ggtgactaag aaaatgagg cgagccctct ttttgcaggg 2580
atttctgact gggcccccctg ggaaggcgag caagaaggac tccaaagaaga aaccggccacg 2640
aacaagcaag aaagacccgg aqaagacacc cctgtgtcca acgagagtt a 2691

<210> 12

15 <211> 2499

<212> DNA

<213> myeloblastosis-associated virus

<220>

<223> beta coding region (met, no tag, no stop)

20 <400> 12
atgactgtt cgttacatct ggctattccg ctcataatgg a gccaacccca caccctgtg 60
tggattgacc a gttggccctt tcctgtgggtt a aacttgttag cgttaacgca attatgtggaa 120
aaaatggatc aqtaggaca tataaaacct tcaatgttagt gctggaaacac acciqtcttt 180
gtatccgg a gggcttcgg qctttatcgc ttattgtatc acttgcgcgc ttttaaucgt 240

aaqettqite stttttagggc cgtttcaacag ggggcgcggg ttcttcggcg qttcccgctg 300
ttttttcccc tggatggactc adacttaaaq qattgtttttt ttttttatccc tttttggggaaa 360
caaaatcgca aacgttttgc atttaacgttc ccctccgtga ataaaccaaqgc ccccgctcaga 420
agtttccaat ggaagggtttt qggcccaaggq atggacctgtt ctcccaactat ctgtcagtgg 480
5 atatgtgggtc aaataacttga gcccttgaga ctcaaggacc catctctcgq catgttgc 540
tatatqgatg atcttttgttgc aqccqccctca agtcatgtat ggtrggaagc ggcaggggag 600
gagggttatca gtacatttggaa aagaqccggg ttccacattt cgctgtataa ggtccagagg 660
gagcccgag tacaatatct tgggtacaacg tttaggtatgt cgtatgttgc acccgtaggc 720
ctggtagcqg aacccaggat aqccacatttq tgggatgttc agaagctqqt ggggtcaattt 780
10 caggggttc gcccagcggtt aggaatcccc ccacgactga tggggccctt ttatgagcag 840
ttacgagggt cagatcctaa cgaggcgagg gaatggaaatc tagacatgaa aatggccctgg 900
agagaaatcg tacagctcg caccactgtt gccttggagc gatgggaccc tgccctgtt 960
ctggaaaggag cggtcgctag atgtqaacag gggcaatag gggctctggg acaggactg 1020
tccacacacc caaggccatg ttgtqgcta ttctccaccc aacccaccaa ggcgtttaatc 1080
15 gtttggtag aagtgtcac ccttttgatt actaaatcgatc gtgtttcgcc agtgcgaacc 1140
tttqgcaagg aggttgatat cctctgttg cctgtatgtt ttctggagga cttcccgctc 1200
cgggaaqqqaa ttcttattaqc ccttaagggg ttgcaggaa aaatcaggag tagtgacacg 1260
ccatctatattt ttqacatgc gctgtccacqg catgttttc tgaaagttag ggttaccgac 1320
caccctgtgc cggtccacac tggctttact gacgcctctt caagcaccctt taagggggtg 1380
20 gtagtctggaa gggagggccc aagggtggag ataaaagaaa tagctgatttt gggggcaagt 1440
gtacaacaac ttggaaagcagc cactgtggcc atggcacttc tgctgtggcc qacaacqccc 1500
actaatgttag tgactqactc cgcgtttgtt gctgaaaatgt tactcaagat gggacaggag 1560

gaaatgtttttt ttatccatggc ggcctttatt ttagaggatg ctttaagcga aaggtcagec 1620
atggccatgtt tttttttt cgggatcat tcttcaatgtc cagggtttttt cacacaaggc 1680
aatggatgttg cttttttttttt accacacctt caaqcgatac ctttqaqaga ggcttaagat 1740
ctccataccg ctccatcat tggaceccgc gcgcatacga aagcggttad tatatctatg 1800
5 cagcaaggttta aatgtttttt ttagacactgc cccgatgttta atttgcggcc tgcgttggag 1860
gcgggggtat aatgtttttt tttgggaccc ctacatgtat ggcagacaga ctttacactt 1920
gagccatggaa tttttttttttt ttcctggatc gctgttactg tggataccgc ctcatcgccg 1980
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10 tctaaatcca cccaaatgtt gcttcgcaga tggggatag cacacaccac cggatccg 2160
ggtaattccc agggtcuage tatggtagag cggccaaacc ggctctgaa agataagatc 2220
cgtgtgttg cggagggggaa tggctttatg aaaaatacc ccaccagcaa acagggggaa 2280
ctatttagcca aggcaatgtt tccccctcaat cactttgac gtggtaaaaa cacaaaaaaca 2340
cgtatcacaaa aacactggag acctaccgtt cttagaagag gaccccccgt taaaatacga 2400
15 atagagacag gggagtggaa aaaaaggatgg aacgtgcgg tctgggacg agtttatgcc 2460
gctgtgaaaa acaggqacac tgataaggtt atttggta 2499

<210> 13
<211> 1737
<212> DNA
20 <213> myeloblastosis-associated virus

<220>
<223> alpha coding region (met, no tag, no stop)

<400> 13
atgactgttg cgctacatct ggctattcgg cttaaatggc agccaaacca cacgcctgtg 60

tgatttgcacc agttggccct tcgttaaggat aaacttggtaq cgttaacccaa attagtggaa 120
aaggaaattac attttaggaca tataagaacct tcacttagtl gcttggaaacac acctqtcttt 180
gtgatccgqa aggcttcccg qtccttatecqg ttaltgcattg acttgcgegac tgtaaacgct 240
aaacttggtc ctlttgggqc cgtccaacag ggggcqccgg ttcttccecgq gctcccgqct 300
5 ggttggcccc ttagtggctc agacctcaag gattgtttct ttcttatcc tcgtcgaa 360
caagatcgcg aacggtttgc atttacgctc ccctccgtga ataaccaggc ccccgctcga 420
agttccaat ggaaggcctt qcuccaaggg atgacetgtt ctcccaactat ctgtcagttg 480
atagtgggtc aaataacttga gcccttgcga ctcaaqcacc catctctgcg catgttgcatt 540
tatatggatg atcttttgtt agccgcctca agtcatgatg ggttggaaac ggcaggggag 600
10 gaggttatca gtacatttga aagagccggg ttacccattt cgccctgataa ggtccagagg 660
gagcccgag tacaatatct tgggtacaag tttaggtatg cgtatgtac acccgtaggc 720
ctggtagcaq aaccaggat aqccacccctg tggatgttc agaaagctggt gggteactt 780
cagtggcttc qcuccagegtt aggaatcccq ccacgactga tggggccctt ttatgagcag 840
ttacqagggt cagatcctaa cgaggcgagg gaatggaaatc tagucatgaa aatggcctgg 900
15 agagagatcg tacagctcg caccactgtc gccttggagc qatgggaccc tgccctgcct 960
cttggaaaggag cggtcgctag atgtgaacag gggcaatag ggttctggg acagggactg 1020
tccucacacc caaggccatg tttgtggcta ttctccaccc aacccaccaa ggcgttact 1080
gcttggtagt aagtqctcac ccttttgatt actaaagctac gtgttccggc agtqcgaaacc 1140
tttggcaagg aggttgatc cccctctgtt cctgcattgtc ttcggggagg ccttccgctc 1200
20 ccggagggga tccctgttgc ccttaagggg ttgcaggaa aatcaggag taqtgacacg 1260
ccatctatcc ttgacatqg qcgccacty catgtttctc tqaatgttgg agttaccqac 1320
caccctgtgc cgggacccac tqtccttact gacgcctctt caagcaccctt taagggggtg 1380

<210> 14
<211> 2706
<212> DNA
10 <213> myeloblastosis-associated virus

<220>
<223> full-length coding region (met, his tag, no stop)

<400> 14
atgactgttg cgctacatct ggctattccg ctcaaatggg agccaaacca cacgccttgt 60
15 tggattgacc aqtggccccct tcctgaaggt aaacctttagt cgcttaacgca attagtggaa 120
aaugaattac agttaggaca tatagaacct tcacttagtt gctggAACAC acctgtlcttt 180
gtgatccgga aggcttccgg gtcttatcgc ttattgcattg acttgcgcgc tgttaacgct 240
aagcttgttc cttttggggc cgtccaaacag ggggcqccgg ttctctccgc gctcccgcgt 300
ggttggcccc tqtgggtct agacctaag gattgtttt ttclattec tcttgcggaa 360
20 caagatcgcg aacgttttgc atttacgcctc ccctccgtga ataaccaggc ccccgctcg 420
aggttccaaat ggaagggtttt gccccaaaggg atqacctgtt ctcccaactat ctgtcgttgt 480
atagtgggtc aaatacttga gcccttgcga ctcaagcacc catctctgcg catgtgcatt 540
tatatggatc atctttgtt aqccgcctca aq!catgtg gg!tgqaage ggcaggggag 600
gaaatgttca gtatcatttqga aagugccggg ttccacatit cgcctgataa ggtccagagg 660

• 210-15
15 • 211-2517
 • 213 • DNA
 • 214 myeloblastosis-associated virus

...-beta coding region (met, his tag, no stop)

aatgttgc ttttggggc cttccaaacag gggggccccq ttccttcggc gttccgggt 300
gttggccc tguatqntctt adacctaag gattgcttctt ttcttatcc tcitqcdsa 360
caagatcgca aacgtttagc atttaegctc ccctccgtga ataaaccaggc ccccgctgca 420
aggttccaat ggaaggcttt gccccaaaggg atgacctgtt ctccccactat ctgtcagttg 480
5 atatgtggtc aaatacttga gccttgcga ctcaagcacc catctctgcg catgttgc 540
tatatggat aicttttgtt agccgcctca agtcatgatg qqtgttggaaagc ggcaggggag 600
gaggttatca gtacatttgg aagaqccggg ttccacattt cqctgtataa ggtccagagg 660
gagcccgag tacaatatctt tgggtacaag tttaggtatgtatc cgtatgttgc accccgttgc 720
ctggtagcag aacccaggat agccaccttg tggatgttc agaaqctggt ggggtcactt 780
10 cagtggcttc gcccacgcgtt aggaatcccg ccacgactga tggggccctt ttatgagcag 840
ttacgagggt caagatctaa cgaggcgagg gaatggaaatc tagacatgaa aatggcctgg 900
agagagatcg tacagcttag caccactgtt gccttggagc gatgggaccc tgccctgcct 960
cttqaaggag cggtcgttag atgtgaacag gggcaatag gggctctggg acaggactg 1020
tccacacacc caaggccatq tttgtggcta ttctccaccc aacccaccaa ggcttact 1080
15 gcttggtag aagtqctcac cctttgtat actaaatgtt gtgttgcgc aqgtgcaccc 1140
tttggcaagg aggttgatat cctctgttg cctgtatgtt ttcggggatg cttccgcctc 1200
ccggaggggg tcttggatgc ccttaagggg ttgcaggaa aatcaggag tagtgacacg 1260
ccatcttattt ttagcattgc gcttccactg catgttttgc taaaatgttgc ggttaccgac 1320
caccctgtgc cggacccac tgcgtttact gacgcttctt caagcaccga taagggggtg 1380
20 gtagtctggg gggaggccc aaggtggag ataaaagaaa tagctgttgc gggggcaagt 1440
gtacuacaaac tggaaacacg cgtgtggcc atggcacttc tqctgtggcc gacaacgccc 1500
actaatgttag tgactgactc cgggtttgtt gcaaaaatgt tactcaagat gggacaggag 1560

ggagtcgggt ctacagccgc ggcttttattt tttagaggatg cgttaagcca aaggccatgc 1620
atggccca ttctccaaatg ggggagtcat tcttaacttc cagggtttt cacadaaagg 1660
aatjatgttgj cagatacgca agccacctt caagcgtatac ctttgagaga ggctaaagat 1740
ctccataccg ctctccatat tggaccccgc ggcgtatcca aagcggtaa tataatctatg 1800
5 caggggttca gggagggtgt tcagacctgc ccgcattgtt attcagcccc tgcgttggag 1860
gcggggtaa accttagggg ttqggaccc ctacagatata ggcagacaga ctttacactt 1920
gaqcctaqaat tgcccccccg ttcttggttgcgctgatgttggataccgc ctcatcgccg 1980
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10 tctaaatcca cggcggatgtg gctcgcgaga tggggatag cacacaccac cgggatccg 2160
ggtaattccc agggtcaagc tatggtagag cggcccaacc ggctctgaa agataagatc 2220
cggtgtctlg cggagggggta tggctttatg aaaagaatcc ccacccagcaa acagggggaa 2280
ctattaqcca aggcaatgtt tgccctcaat cactttgac gtggtaaaa cacaaaaaca 2340
ccgatataaaa aacactggag acctaccgtt ctacagaag gaccccccgt taaaatacga 2400
15 ataqaqacag gggaaqtggaa aaaaggatgg aacgtgtcg tctggggacg aggttatgcc 2460
gtgtgtggaaa acaggggacac tgataaggtt atttgggtac accaccacca ccaccac 2517

<210> 16
<211> 1755
<212> DNA
20 <213> myeloblastosis-associated virus

<220>
<223> alpha coding region (met, his tag, no stop)

<400> 16
atqactgttg cgctacatct ggctattccg ctcaaattggaa agccaaaccca caccggcgtgtg 60


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gtatctggc gggaggcccc aagggtgggg ataaaaagaa tagctgtttt gggggcaagt 1440
atataacaacg tggaaadcaed cgcttgtggcc atggcacttc tgcgttgtggcc qacaacgccc 1500
actaatgttg tgactgtactc cgcggtttgtt gcgaaaatgt tactcaaaat gggacaggag 1560
ggagtcggcgt ctacagccgc ggctttattt ttagaggatg cgttaagccaa aaggtcagcc 1620
5 atggccgcgg ttctecacgt gggggatcat tctqaagtgc cagggtttt cacagaaggaa 1680
aatquacgtgg cagataggcca agccacaccc caagcgatac ctttgagaga ggctaaacac 1740
caccacccacc accac 1755

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gaggttatac tataatggaa aagggccggg ttccacattt cgcctqataa ggtcccaqagg 660
aagcccgagg tataatatact tgggtacaaq ttaggtatgt cgtatgttgc accegttgc 720
ctggtagcag aaccaggat agccaccccttq tgggtatgttgc aqaactgttgc ggggttactt 780
cagtggcttc qccacgcgtt aggaatcccgg ccacqactgttgc tggccccctt ttatgagtag 840
5 ttacgggggt cagatccataa cgagggcagg gaatggatac tagacatgaa aatggccctgg 900
agaqagatcg tacatgttcag caccactgttgc ctgggaccc tgccttgcc 960
ctggaggag cggtcqctag atgtgaacag gggcaatag gggctctggg acaggggactg 1020
tccacacacc caaggccatg ttttgtggcta ttctccaccc aacccaccaa ggcgtttactt 1080
gettggtag aagtgttcac ccttttgatt actaaagctac gtgttgcggc agtgcgaacc 1140
10 tttggcaagg aggttgatatac cctccctgttgc cttgtcatgttgc ttccggagga cttccgcctt 1200
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caccctgtgc cgggacccac tttttttactt gacgccttgc caaqcaccca taagggggtg 1380
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15 gtacaacaac tggaaqcaqcg cgctgtggcc atggcacttgc tgctgtggcc gacaacgccc 1500
actaatgttag tqactgactc cggctttgttgc qgaaaaatgt tactcaagat gggacaggag 1560
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atggccqccg ttctccacgt gggaggtcat tctqaagtgc cagggtttt cacagaagga 1680
aatgacgtgg cagatagccaa agccacccctt caagcgatc ctttgugaga ggctaaagat 1740
20 ctccatatacq ctctccatatac tggaccccccgc ggcctatccaa aagcggttgc tatatactatg 1800
cagcaggatca qggaggttgc tcaagactgc cggcattgttgc attcagcccc tgcgttggag 1860
gcggggtaa accctayggg ittgggaccc ctucagatata ggcagacaga ctttacactt 1920

gagcttataat tggcccccccg ttcttggctc gttgttactg tggutacccg ctcatacgccg 1980
at idtccraa ctcageatcg ccgtgtcaca tcggtttctg cacaacatca ttggggccung 2040
gttatacqcg ttttggqaag accaaaggcc ataaaaacag ataatgggcg ctgtttaacg 2100
tctaaatcca cgcgagatg qctcgqaga tggggatag cacacaccac cgggattccg 2160
5 ggttaattccc agggtaaucg tatgttagag cggtccaacc ggctctgaa agataagatc 2220
cggtlqcttg cgagggggga tggctttatg aaaagaatcc ccaccagcaa acagggggaa 2280
ctttagccca aggcaatgta tgccctcaat cactttgagc gtggtaaaa cacaaaaaca 2340
ccgataccaa aacactggag acctaccgtt ctacagaag gaccccccgt taataatcg 2400
atagagucag gggagtggga aaaaggatgg aacgtqctgg tctggggacg agtttatgcc 2460
10 gctgtaaaa acaggcacac tgataaggtt atttgggtac cctctcgaaa agttaaacgg 2520
gacatcaccc aaaggatga ggtgactaag aaagatgagg cgagccctct tttgcaggc 2580
atttctgact ggcgccttg ggaaggcgag caagaaggac tccaaagaaga aaccgcceagg 2640
aacaagcaag aaagaccccg agaagacacc cctgctgcca acgagagtca ccaccaccac 2700
caccactaa 2709

15 <210> 18
<211> 2520
<212> DNA
<213> myeloblastosis-associated virus

<220>
20 <223> beta coding region (met, his tag, stop)

<400> 18
atgactgttg cgttacatct ggctattccg ctcaaattgg a gccaaaccc c acgccttgtg 60
tggattggacc agtgccccct tcctqaaggt aaaccttggtag cgttaacgca attagtggaa 120
aaagaatttc agttagguca tataquaccc tcaacttagtt gctggAACAC acctgttctt 180

gugatccggaa agggttcggg gtctttatcgtt ttattgcataq acttgccgccc tgtaacact 240
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ggttggcccc tgaatggctt agaccccaag gatgtctct tttcttatcc tcttgcggaa 360
caagatcggc aacgttttgc atttaegetc cccttcgtga ataaccaggc ccccgctcga 420
5 aggttccaaat ggaaggctt gccccaaaggg atgacctgtt ctccccactat ctgtcaggta 480
atagtgggtc aaatacttga gcccatttgcga ctcaaggcacc catctctgcg catgttgcat 540
tataatggat atcttttgtt agccgcctca agtcatgtat ggttggaaagc ggcaggggag 600
gagggttatca qtacatttga aaqagccggg ttcaccattt cgcctgtataa ggtccagagg 660
gagcccgag tacaatatct tgggtacaag ttaggtatgt cgtatgttgc acccgtaggc 720
10 ctggtagcag aaccaggat agccacattt tgggatgttc agaagcttgtt ggggtcaatt 780
cagttggcttc gcccagcggtt aggaatcccc ccacgacttga tgggccccctt ttatgagcag 840
ttacgagggtt cagatcccaa cgaggcgagg gaatggaaatc tagacatgaa aatggcttgg 900
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15 tccacacacc caagggccatg ttttgtggta ttctccaccc aaccacccaa ggcgtttact 1080
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gtacaacaaac tggggacccaa cccctgtggcc alqqcaatc tgctgttgcc gacaaccc 1500

actaatatad tgaatgacitc cggcttigt gggaaaatgt taatcaagat gggacacggg 1560
ggaaatccgt ctacagcgcc accttttttt ttagaggatq ctttaagccca aaggtcagec 1620
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5 ctccataccg ctctccatat tggacccccgc ggcgtatcca aagcgtgtaa tatatactatg 1800
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gcgggggtaa acccttagggg tttgggaccc ctacagatata ggcagacaga ctttacactt 1920
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10 gctatcgccg ttttggaaag accaaaggcc ataaaaacag ataatgggc tctgcttcacg 2100
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15 ccgatacaaa aacactggag acctaccgtt ctacaguag gaccccccgt taaaatacgt 2400
atagagacag gggatggaa aaaaggatgg aacgtgtgg tctggggacg agtttatgcc 2460
gctgtgaad acagggacac tgataaggtt atttgggtac accacccacca ccaccactaa 2520

<210> 19

<211> 1758

20 <212> DNA

<213> myeloblastosis-associated virus

<220>

<223> alpha coding region (met, his tag, stop)

<400> 19

atgactgttg cactacatctt ggctattccg ctcaaatggaa agccaaaccu cacgcgttg 60
tgtattdacc agtggccccc tcttqaaggta aaacttggtg cgctaaccgcu attatgttcaa 120
aaagaattac agttagggaca tatagaaccc tcacttagtt gctggAACAC acctgtcitt 180
gtgtatccqga aggcttccgg gtcttategc ttattgcattt acttgcgcgc tgtaaacgt 240
5 aagcttggtc sttttggggc cgtccaaacag gggggcgccgg ttctctccgc gctcccgctg 300
gggtggcccc tqatggctt agacccaaag gattgtctt ttcttatcc tcttgccggaa 360
caagatcgcc aacgttttgc attacgcctc ccctccgtqa ataaccaggc ccccgctcga 420
aggttccaaat ggaagggtttt gccccaaaggg atgaccgttt ctcccaactat ctgtcagttg 480
atagtgggic aaataacttqa gcccattgcga ctcAACGACC catctctgcg catgttgcatt 540
10 tataatggatg atcttttgcg agccgcctca agtcatgtatg ggttggaaqc ggcaggggag 600
gaggttatca glacatttggaa aagagccggg ttccaccattt cgccctgataa ggtccagagg 660
gagccggag tacaatatct tgggtacaag tttagttagta cgtatgtac acccgtaggc 720
ctggtagcug aacccaggat agccaccccttggatgttc agaagctgtt ggggtcactt 780
cagtggtttcc qcccaugcggtt aggaatcccg ccacgactga tgggccccctt ttatgagcag 840
15 ttacgagggtt cagatccaa cggggcgagg gaatggaaatc tagacatgaa aatggccctgg 900
agagagatcq tacagcttag caccactgt gccttggagc gatgggaccc tgcctctgcct 960
ctggaaaggag cggtcgttag atgtgaacag ggggcaatag gggtcttggg acaggggactg 1020
tccacacacc cuaggccatg tttgtggctt ttctccaccc aacccaccaa ggccgtttact 1080
acttggttag aagtqctcac cttttgtatt actaagctac gtgttccggc agtgcgaacc 1140
20 tttggcaaqg aqgttqatat cttccctgttg cctgcattgtt ttcgggagga cttcccgctc 1200
ccggaaaggga tccctgttagc ctttaagggg ttqccggaa aatcaggag taqtgacacg 1260
ccatetattt ttgacattgc gcqtcactg catgttttcc taaaatgtgag gtttaccgac 1320

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: FKI

<400> 22

5 atqaciqttg cgttacatct

20

<210> 23

<211> 57

<212> DNA

<213> Artificial Sequence

10 <220>

<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: M1BARSQHIS

<400> 23

accggatca attaattagt ggttgttgtg tgggtgttta gcctctctca agggata 57

<210> 24

15 <211> 54

<212> DNA

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: M1KARSDHIS

20 <400> 24

accggatca attaattagt ggttgttgtg tgggtgttta ataaccttat cagt 54

<210> 25

<211> 44

<212> DNA

25 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: FM1BASmai

<400> 25

ataaggccca ctgttttcggatgact gttgcgtgc atct

44

5 <210> 27
5 <211> 21
<212> DNA
<213> Artificial Sequence

10 <210> 28
<211> 21
<212> DNA
<213> Artificial Sequence

15 <210> 29
<211> 23
<212> DNA
<213> Artificial Sequence

20 <210> 29
<211> 23
<212> DNA
<213> Artificial Sequence

25 <210> 29
<211> Description of Artificial Sequence: forward
sequencing primer or FSP

30 <210> 29
<211> 24
<212> DNA

<213> Artificial Sequence

<210>

<213> Description of Artificial Sequence: gene-specific
capture primer

5 <400> 30

aactatgcc aacttagagat tggagggtgt tt

32

<210> 31

<211> 40

<212> DNA

10 <213> Artificial Sequence

<210>

<213> Description of Artificial Sequence: amplification
primer 1

<400> 31

15 accccatcca atgcatgtct cgggtcgtag tcttaaccat

40

<210> 32

<211> 40

<212> DNA

<213> Artificial Sequence

20 <210>

<213> Description of Artificial Sequence: amplification
primer 2

<400> 32

cgttccgtt ccagacttct cgggtcgtag aggagtaagg

40

25 <210> 33

<211> 33

<212> DNA

<213> FWhis

<400> 33

30 ggcacaccca ccaccacca cac

23

<210> 34
<211> 23
<212> DNA
<213> Phnis

5 <400> 34 23
ggcccgatgtg atggatggtag tgt

<210> 35
<211> 64
<212> DNA
10 <213> RM1KAhisKpnI

<400> 35 60
ttttaactttt cgaqagggtt ccttagtgtt ggtgggtgtg gtgtacccaa ataaccttat
cagt 64

<210> 36
15 <211> 66
<212> DNA
<213> RM1AAhisAccI

<400> 36 60
aaauataaaag cgcgcgtgt cgacttagtg gtgggtgtg tggggactc cctctgtcc
20 catctt 66

<210> 37
<211> 40
<212> DNA
<213> Artificial Sequence

25 <220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: HRP-conjugated
F2 comp

<400> 37 40
ccttactctt tcagcaccccg agaaatctgg aqcqqaatcq

>2105 30

>211 = 314 <

>211 = 165

+>111 Human immunodeficiency virus type 2

5 >211 <

>211 = CDS

>211 = (1) .. (3168)

>2105 38

atq ctg gaa atq tgg aca gca agg aca cat cat gtc aaa atg ccc aga	48		
Met Leu Glu Met Trp Thr Ala Arg Thr His His Val Lys Met Pro Arg			
1	5	10	15

10

aag aca ggc ggg ttt ttt agg cgg ccc ctg ggg aaa gaa gcc tcc	96		
Lys Thr Gly Gly Phe Phe Arg Val Pro Leu Gly Lys Glu Ala Ser			
20	25	30	

15

caa ttt ccc cct cca ggc acc cca ggg gat agt agt gcc atc tgc gcc ccc	144	
Gln Phe Pro Arg Pro Gly Thr Pro Gly Asp Ser Ala Ile Cys Ala Pro		
35	40	45

gat gaa ccc agc att cgg cat gac acc tca ggg tgc gat tcc atc tgc	192		
Asp Glu Pro Ser Ile Arg His Asp Thr Ser Gly Cys Asp Ser Ile Cys			
20	50	55	60

aac ccc tgc aga tcc agc aga gga gat gct aaa gaa cta cat gca act	240		
Thr Pro Cys Arg Ser Ser Arg Gly Asp Ala Lys Glu Leu His Ala Thr			
65	70	75	80

agg gaa gaa gca gaa gaa cag aga gag acc cta caa gga ggt gac	288		
Arg Glu Glu Ala Glu Gly Glu Gln Arg Glu Thr Leu Gln Gly Asp			
25	85	90	95

aqa gga tti get gca cct caa ttc tct ctt tgg aga aga gca gta gtc	336		
Arg Gly Phe Ala Ala Pro Gln Phe Ser Leu Trp Arg Arg Pro Val Val			
100	105	110	

aaa gca act att qag gat caa tca gta gaa gta tta gac aca gga	384		
Lys Ala Thr Ile Glu Gly Gln Ser Val Glu Val Leu Leu Asp Thr Gly			
115	120	125	

qct gat gac tca ata gta gca ggg ala gaa tta ggc agc aat tac acc	432
Ala Asp Asp Ser Ile Val Ala Gly Ile Glu Leu Gly Ser Asn Tyr Thr	

130 135 140

ccs aaa ata ata cgt ggg ata gga gga itt ata aat acc aat gaa tac 490
 ric Lys Ile Val Gly Gly Ile Gly Gly Phe Ile Asn Thr Asn Glu Tyr
 145 150 155 160

5 aaa aat gta gaa ata gaa gta gta gga aaa aga gta aga gca aca gta 528 -
 Lys Asn Val Glu Ile Glu Val Val Gly Lys Arg Val Arg Ala Thr Val
 165 170 175

atg aca ggg gac acc cca ata aac att ttt ggc aga aat att tta aat 576
 Met Thr Gly Asp Thr Pro Ile Asn Ile Phe Gly Arg Asn Ile Leu Asn
 10 180 185 190

agc tta ggc atg act cta aat ttc cca gta gca agg ata gaa cca gta 624
 Ser Leu Gly Met Thr Leu Asn Phe Pro Val Ala Arg Ile Glu Pro Val
 195 200 205

aaa gtc cag tta aag cct gaa aaa gat ggg cca aaa atc aga caa tgg 672
 15 Lys Val Gln Leu Lys Pro Glu Lys Asp Gly Pro Lys Ile Arg Gln Trp
 210 215 220

ccc cta tcc aaa gag aaa ata cta gcc ctc aaa gaa atc tgt gaa aaa 720
 Pro Leu Ser Lys Glu Iys Ile Leu Ala Leu Lys Glu Ile Cys Glu Lys
 225 230 235 240

20 atg gaa aaa gag gga cag tta gaa gag gcg cct cct act aat cca tac 768
 Met Glu Lys Glu Gly Gln Leu Glu Ala Pro Pro Thr Asn Pro Tyr
 245 250 255

aat tcg ccc acc ttc gcc ata aaa aag aaa gac aaa aac aaa tgg agg 816
 Asn Ser Pro Thr Phe Ala Ile Lys Lys Asp Lys Asn Lys Trp Arg
 25 260 265 270

atg cta ata gat ttc aga gaa cta aac aag gta acc caa gaa ttt aca 864
 Met Leu Ile Asp Phe Arg Glu Leu Asn Lys Val Thr Gln Glu Phe Thr
 275 280 285

30 gag gtc cag ctg ggt att cct cac cca gca gga ctg gca tca aag aaa 912
 Glu Val Gln Leu Gly Ile Pro His Pro Ala Gly Leu Ala Ser Lys Lys
 290 295 300

aga ata aca gta cta gat gta gga gat gcc lac ltc agt gtc cca cta 960
 Arg Ile Thr Val Leu Asp Val Gly Asp Ala Tyr Phe Ser Val Pro Leu

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	305	310	315	320	
	gat gaa gac ttc aga cca tat aca gca tt act ttc cta gca gta aat Asp Pro Asp Phe Arg Gln Tyr Thr Ala Phe Thr Leu Pro Ala Val Asn				1008
	325		330		335
5	aat gca gaa cca gga aag aga tat ctt tac aaa gtc cta cca cag gga Asn Ala Glu Pro Gly Lys Arg Tyr Leu Tyr Lys Val Leu Pro Gln Gly				1056
	340		345		350
	tgg aag gga tcc cca gca att ttc caq tac acc atg gca aag gta cta Trp Lys Gly Ser Pro Ala Ile Phe Gln Tyr Thr Met Ala Lys Val Leu				1104
10	355		360		365
	gac cct ttc aqa aaa gcc aac aat gat gtc act ata atc cag tac atg Asp Pro Phe Arg Lys Ala Asn Asn Asp Val Thr Ile Ile Gln Tyr Met				1152
	370		375		380
	gat gac att ctc gtg gca agt gac agg agc gat ctg gag cat qac agg Asp Asp Ile Leu Val Ala Ser Asp Arg Ser Asp Leu Glu His Asp Arg				1200
15	385		390		395
	gtt gtg tct caa cta aaa gag cta tta aat aac atg gga ttc tct act Val Val Ser Gln Leu Lys Glu Leu Leu Asn Asn Met Gly Phe Ser Thr				1248
	405		410		415
20	cca gaa gaa aag ttc caa aaa gac cct cca ttc aaa tgg atg ggg tat Pro Glu Glu Lys Phe Gln Lys Asp Pro Pro Phe Lys Trp Met Gly Tyr				1296
	420		425		430
	gag ctc tgg cca aag aaa tgg aaa ctg caa aaa ata cag cta cca gaa Glu Leu Trp Pro Lys Trp Lys Leu Gin Lys Ile Gln Leu Pro Glu				1344
25	435		440		445
	aaa gag gtt tgg aca gta aat gac att cag aag tta gtg gga gta tta Lys Glu Val Trp Thr Val Asn Asp Ile Gin Lys Leu Val Gly Val Leu				1392
	450		455		460
	aat tgg gca gct caa ctt ttc ccc ggg att aag acc agg cat ata tgt Asn Thr Ala Ala Gln Ieu Phe Pro Gly Ile Lys Thr Arg His Ile Cys				1440
30	465		470		475
	aaa cta ata agg gga aag atg acc cta aca gaa gag gta caa tgg act Lys Leu Ile Arg Gly Lys Met Thr Ieu Thr Glu Glu Val Gln Trp Thr				1488

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	485	490	495	
	gaa itg cca gag cca gaa ttc cag gaa acc aaa atc atc cta gaa caa Glu Leu Ala Glu Cys Ala Glu Phe Gln Glu Asn Lys Ile Ile Leu Glu Gin			1536
	500	505	510	
5	gag cag qaa gqa tcc tat tac aaa qaa ggg qta cct tta gaa gca aca Glu Glu Glu Gly Ser Tyr Tyr Lys Glu Gly Val Pro Leu Glu Ala Thr			1584
	515	520	525	
	gtg cag aaa aat cta qca aat cag tgg aca tac aag att cat cag qga Val Gin Lys Asn Leu Ala Asn Glu Trp Thr Tyr Lys Ile His Glu Gly			1632
10	530	535	540	
	gat aaa atc cta aaa gta gga aaa tat qca aag gtt aaa aac act cac Asp Lys Ile Leu Lys Val Gly Lys Tyr Ala Lys Val Lys Asn Thr His			1680
	545	550	555	560
15	acc aat gga gta aga cta ttg gct cat gta gtc caa aaa ata gga aag Thr Asn Gly Val Arg Leu Leu Ala His Val Val Glu Lys Ile Gly Lys			1728
	565	570	575	
	gaa gca ttg gtc ate tgg gga gag ata cca atg ttc cat cta cca gta Glu Ala Leu Val Ile Trp Gly Glu Ile Pro Met Phe His Leu Pro Val			1776
	580	585	590	
20	gaa aga gag aca tgg gat cag tgg tgg aca qat tac tgg caa gta acc Glu Arg Glu Thr Trp Asp Gln Trp Trp Thr Asp Tyr Trp Gln Val Thr			1824
	595	600	605	
	tgg atc cca qaa tgg gat ttt gtc tca acc cca cca tta ata agg tta Trp Ile Pro Glu Trp Asp Phe Val Ser Thr Pro Pro Leu Ile Arg Leu			1872
25	610	615	620	
	gcc tat aac ctg gtc aaa gac ccc cta gaa gga gta gaa act tac tac Ala Tyr Asn Leu Val Lys Asp Pro Leu Glu Gly Val Glu Thr Tyr Tyr			1920
	625	630	635	640
30	aca gat gga tcc tgt aac aaa gcc tca aaa gaa ggg aaa qca gga tat Thr Asp Gly Ser Cys Asn Lys Ala Ser Lys Glu Gly Lys Ala Gly Tyr			1968
	645	650	655	
	gtc aca gac agg qga aag qat aaa qtt aaa cca tta gaa caa aca aca Val Thr Asp Arg Gly Lys Asp Lys Val Lys Pro Leu Glu Gin Thr Thr			2016

	660	665	670	
	aat cag -aa gca gag ctt qaa cca ttt gca cta gca ctc cag gac tca 2064 Asn Gln Gln Ala Glu Leu Gln Ala Phe Ala Leu Ala Leu Glu Asp Ser			
	675	680	685	
5	gga cca cag gtc aat atc ata gta gat tca caa tat gtc atg gga ata 2112 Gly Pro Gln Val Asn Ile Ile Val Asp Ser Gln Tyr Val Met Gly Ile			
	690	695	700	
	gta gct gca caa cca aca gaa aca gaa tca ccg ata gta aga gaa ata 2160 Val Ala Ala Gln Pro Thr Glu Thr Glu Ser Pro Ile Val Arg Glu Ile			
10	705	710	715	720
	att gaa gaa atg atc aaa aaq gaa aaa ata tat gta gga tgg gta cca 2208 Ile Glu Met Ile Lys Lys Glu Lys Ile Tyr Val Gly Trp Val Pro			
	725	730	735	
15	gct cac aag gga ctg ggt ggt aat cag gaa gta gac cac cta gtg agc 2256 Ala His Lys Gly Leu Gly Gly Asn Gln Glu Val Asp His Leu Val Ser			
	740	745	750	
	caa gga att aga caa atc cta ttt cta gaa aaa ata gaa cca gct caa 2304 Gln Gly Ile Arg Gln Ile Leu Phe Leu Glu Lys Ile Glu Pro Ala Gln			
	755	760	765	
20	gaa gaa cat gaa aaa tat cat aat aat gta aaa gaa cta gtc cat aaa 2352 Glu Glu His Glu Lys Tyr His Asn Asn Val Lys Glu Leu Val His Lys			
	770	775	780	
	ttt ggg att cca caa tta gtg gca aga caa ata gta aat tcc tgt gat 2400 Phe Gly Ile Pro Gln Leu Val Ala Arg Gln Ile Val Asn Ser Cys Asp			
25	785	790	795	800
	aaa tgc caa caa aaa ggg gaa gct att cat gga cag gta aat tca gaa 2448 Lys Cys Gln Gln Lys Gly Glu Ala Ile His Gly Gln Val Asn Ser Glu			
	805	810	815	
	cta ggg aca tgg caa atg gac tgt aca cat tta gag gga aag gtt ata 2496 Leu Gly Thr Trp Gln Met Asp Cys Thr His Leu Glu Gly Lys Val Ile			
30	820	825	830	
	ata gtg gca gtt cat gta gcc agt gga ttc ata gaa gca gaa gta ata 2544 Ile Val Ala Val Ala Ser Gly Phe Ile Glu Ala Glu Val Ile			

	835	840	845		
				2592	
ccc cca gaa aca aca aca ctc ttc ctg tta aag ctq gcc Pro Gin Glu Thr Gly Arg Gln Thr Ala Leu Phe Leu Leu Lys Leu Ala					
	850	855	860		
5	agc aga tgg cct atc acu cac ctg cac aca gac aac ggt gcc aac ttc Ser Arg Trp Pro Ile Thr His Leu His Thr Asp Asn Gly Ala Asn Phe				2640
	865	870	875	880	
act tca caa gat gtg aaa atg gca gcc tgg tgg ata ggg ata gaa caa Thr Ser Gln Asp Val Lys Met Ala Ala Trp Trp Ile Gly Ile Glu Gin				2688	
10	885	890	895		
aca ttc gga qtg ccc tat aat cca gaa agt cag gga qta gaa gca Thr Phe Gly Val Pro Tyr Asn Pro Glu Ser Gln Gly Val Val Glu Ala				2736	
	900	905	910		
15	atg aac cat cat ctg aaa aat cag ata gac aga att aga gat cag gca Met Asn His His Leu Lys Asn Gln Ile Asp Arg Ile Arg Asp Gln Ala				2784
	915	920	925		
gta tca ata gag aca gtt gtg tta atg gca act cac tgc atg aat ttt Val Ser Ile Glu Thr Val Leu Met Ala Thr His Cys Met Asn Phe				2832	
	930	935	940		
20	aaa aga agg gga gga ata ggg gat atg acc cct gca gaa aga ata gtc Lys Arg Arg Gly Gly Ile Gly Asp Met Thr Pro Ala Glu Arg Ile Val				2880
	945	950	955	960	
aac atg ata act aca gaa caa gaa ata caa ttc ctc caa aca aaa aat Asn Met Ile Thr Thr Glu Gln Glu Ile Gln Phe Leu Gln Thr Lys Asn				2928	
25	965	970	975		
tta aaa ttc caa aat ttc cgg gtc tat tac aga gaa ggc aga gat caa Leu Lys Phe Gln Asn Phe Arg Val Tyr Tyr Arg Glu Gly Arg Asp Gln				2976	
	980	985	990		
30	ctc tgg aag gga cct ggt gat cta ttg tgg aaa ggg gaa gga gca gtc Leu Trp Lys Gly Pro Gly Asp Leu Leu Trp Lys Gly Glu Gly Ala Val				3024
	995	1000	1005		
atc ata aag gta ggg aca gaa atc aaa gta ata ccc aca aga aaa gca Ile Ile Lys Val Gly Thr Glu Ile Lys Val Ile Pro Arg Arg Lys Ala				3072	

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1010	1015	1020
------	------	------

aaq aat ata aqa aac tat qqa nqa qqa aaa qaa ttg qat tgc aqt qcc 3120
 Lys Ile Ile Arg Asn Tyr Gly Gly Gly Lys Glu Leu Asp Cys Ser Ala
 1025 1030 1035 1040

5 gac qtg gag got acc atg cag gct aqa qaq qtg gca cag tct aat taa 3168
 Asp Val Glu Asp Thr Met Gin Ala Arg Glu Val Ala Gin Ser Asn
 1045 1050 1055

<210> 39
 <211> 1055
 10 <212> PRT
 <213> Human immunodeficiency virus type 2

<400> 39
 Met Leu Glu Met Trp Thr Ala Arg Thr His His Val Lys Met Pro Arg
 1 5 10 15

15 Lys Thr Gly Gly Phe Arg Val Arg Pro Leu Gly Lys Glu Ala Ser
 20 25 30

Gln Phe Pro Arg Pro Gly Thr Pro Gly Asp Ser Ala Ile Cys Ala Pro
 35 40 45

Asp Glu Pro Ser Ile Arg His Asp Thr Ser Gly Cys Asp Ser Ile Cys
 20 50 55 60

Thr Pro Cys Arg Ser Ser Arg Gly Asp Ala Lys Glu Leu His Ala Thr
 65 70 75 80

Arg Glu Glu Ala Glu Gly Glu Gln Arg Glu Thr Leu Gln Gly Gly Asp
 65 90 95

25 Arg Gly Phe Ala Ala Pro Gln Phe Ser Leu Trp Arg Arg Pro Val Val
 100 105 110

Lys Ala Thr Ile Glu Gly Gln Ser Val Glu Val Leu Leu Asp Thr Gly
 115 120 125

Ala Asp Asp Ser Ile Val Ala Gly Ile Glu Leu Gly Ser Asn Tyr Thr
 30 130 135 140

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	Pro Ile Val Gly Gly Ile Gly Gly Phe Ile Asn Thr Asn Glu Tyr		
146	150	155	
	Lys Asn Val Asn Ile Glu Val Val Gly Lys Arg Val Arg Ala Thr Val		
	165	170	175
5	Met Thr Gly Asp Thr Pro Ile Asn Ile Phe Gly Arg Asn Ile Leu Asn		
	180	185	190
	Ser Leu Gly Met Thr Leu Asn Phe Pro Val Ala Arg Ile Glu Pro Val		
	195	200	205
10	Lys Val Gln Leu Ile Phe Ile Glu Lys Asp Gly Pro Lys Ile Arg Gln Trp		
	210	215	220
	Pro Leu Ser Lys Glu Lys Ile Leu Ala Leu Lys Glu Ile Cys Glu Lys		
	225	230	235
	Met Glu Lys Glu Gly Gln Leu Glu Glu Ala Pro Pro Thr Asn Pro Tyr		
	245	250	255
15	Asn Ser Pro Thr Phe Ala Ile Lys Lys Lys Asp Lys Asn Lys Trp Arg		
	260	265	270
	Met Leu Ile Asp Phe Arg Glu Leu Asn Lys Val Thr Gln Glu Phe Thr		
	275	280	285
20	Glu Val Gln Leu Gly Ile Pro His Pro Ala Gly Leu Ala Ser Lys Lys		
	290	295	300
	Arg Ile Thr Val Leu Asp Val Gly Asp Ala Tyr Phe Ser Val Pro Leu		
	305	310	315
	Asp Ile Asp Phe Arg Gln Tyr Thr Ala Phe Thr Leu Pro Ala Val Asn		
	325	330	335
25	Asn Ala Glu Pro Gly Lys Arg Tyr Leu Tyr Lys Val Leu Pro Gln Gly		
	340	345	350
	Trp Lys Gly Ser Pro Ala Ile Phe Gln Tyr Thr Met Ala Lys Val Leu		
	355	360	365
	Asp Pro Phe Arg Lys Ala Asn Asn Asp Val Thr Ile Ile Gln Tyr Met		
30	370	375	380

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	Asp Asp Ile Leu Val Ala Ser Asp Arg Ser Asp Leu Glu His Asp Arg		
385	390	395	
		400	
	Vai Val Ser Gin Leu Iys Glu Leu Leu Asn Asn Met Gly Phe Ser Thr		
	405	410	415
5	Pro Glu Glu Lys Phe Gin Iys Asp Pro Pro Phe Lys Trp Met Gly Tyr		
	420	425	430
	Glu Leu Trp Pro Lys Lys Trp Lys Leu Gln Lys Ile Gln Leu Pro Glu		
	435	440	445
	Lys Glu Val Trp Thr Val Asn Asp Ile Gln Lys Leu Val Gly Val Leu		
10	450	455	460
	Asn Trp Ala Ala Gln Leu Phe Pro Gly Ile Lys Thr Arg His Ile Cys		
	465	470	475
	480		
	Lys Leu Ile Arg Gly Lys Met Thr Leu Thr Glu Glu Val Gln Trp Thr		
	485	490	495
15	Glu Leu Ala Glu Ala Glu Phe Gln Glu Asn Lys Ile Ile Leu Glu Gln		
	500	505	510
	Glu Gln Glu Gly Ser Tyr Tyr Lys Glu Gly Val Pro Leu Glu Ala Thr		
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	Asp Lys Ile Leu Lys Val Gly Lys Tyr Ala Lys Val Lys Asn Thr His		
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	560		
	Thr Asn Gly Vai Arg Leu Leu Ala His Val Val Gln Lys Ile Gly Lys		
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25	Glu Ala Leu Val Ile Trp Gly Glu Ile Pro Met Phe His Leu Pro Val		
	580	585	590
	Glu Arg Glu Thr Trp Asp Gln Trp Trp Thr Asp Tyr Trp Gln Val Thr		
	595	600	605
	Trp Ile Pro Glu Trp Asp Phe Val Ser Thr Pro Pro Leu Ile Arg Leu		
30	610	615	620

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	Ala Tyr Asn Leu Val Lys Asp Pro Leu Glu Gly Val Glu Thr Tyr Tyr			
625	630	635	640	
	Thr Asp Gly Ser Cys Asn Lys Ala Ser Lys Glu Gly Lys Ala Gly Tyr			
	645	650	655	
5	Val Thr Asp Arg Gly Lys Asp Lys Val Lys Pro Leu Glu Gln Thr Thr			
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	Asn Gln Ala Glu Leu Glu Ala Phe Ala Leu Ala Leu Gln Asp Ser			
	675	680	685	
	Gly Pro Gln Val Asn Ile Ile Val Asp Ser Gln Tyr Val Met Gly Ile			
10	690	695	700	
	Val Ala Ala Gln Pro Thr Glu Thr Glu Ser Pro Ile Val Arg Glu Ile			
	705	710	715	720
	Ile Glu Glu Met Ile Lys Lys Glu Lys Ile Tyr Val Gly Trp Val Pro			
	725	730	735	
15	Ala His Lys Gly Leu Gly Gly Asn Gln Glu Val Asp His Leu Val Ser			
	740	745	750	
	Gln Gly Ile Arg Gln Ile Leu Phe Leu Glu Lys Ile Glu Pro Ala Gln			
	755	760	765	
	Glu Glu His Glu Lys Tyr His Asn Asn Val Lys Glu Leu Val His Lys			
20	770	775	780	
	Phe Gly Ile Pro Gln Leu Val Ala Arg Gln Ile Val Asn Ser Cys Asp			
	785	790	795	800
	Lys Cys Gln Gln Lys Gly Glu Ala Ile His Gly Glu Val Asn Ser Glu			
	805	810	815	
25	Leu Gly Thr Trp Gln Met Asp Cys Thr His Leu Glu Gly Lys Val Ile			
	820	825	830	
	Ile Val Ala Val His Val Ala Ser Gly Phe Ile Glu Ala Glu Val Ile			
	835	840	845	
	Pro Gln Glu Thr Gly Arg Gln Thr Ala Leu Phe Leu Leu Lys Leu Ala			
30	850	855	860	

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1 Met Arg Trp Pro Ile Thr His Leu His Thr Asp Asn Gly Ala Asn Phe
 2 875 879 880
 3 Trp Asn Gln Asp Val Ile Met Ala Ala Trp Trp Ile Gly Ile Glu Gln
 4 885 890 895
 5 Thr Phe Gly Val Pro Tyr Asn Pro Glu Ser Gln Gly Val Val Glu Ala
 6 890 895 900
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 9 Val Ser Ile Glu Thr Val Val Leu Met Ala Thr His Cys Met Asn Phe
 10 930 935 940
 11 Lys Arg Arg Gly Gly Ile Gly Asp Met Thr Pro Ala Glu Arg Ile Val
 12 945 950 955 960
 13 Asn Met Ile Thr Thr Glu Gln Glu Ile Gln Phe Leu Gln Thr Lys Asn
 14 965 970 975
 15 Leu Lys Phe Gln Asn Phe Arg Val Tyr Tyr Arg Glu Gly Arg Asp Gln
 16 980 985 990
 17 Leu Trp Lys Gly Pro Gly Asp Leu Leu Trp Lys Gly Glu Gly Ala Val
 18 995 1000 1005
 19 Ile Ile Lys Val Gly Thr Glu Ile Lys Val Ile Pro Arg Arg Lys Ala
 20 1010 1015 1020
 21 Lys Ile Ile Arg Asn Tyr Gly Gly Lys Glu Leu Asp Cys Ser Ala
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 23 Asp Val Glu Asp Thr Met Gln Ala Arg Glu Val Ala Gln Ser Asn
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 <213> Murine leukemia virus
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 30 <221> CDS

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 Leu Ala Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Leu Ile Ile Pro Leu Lys Ala Thr Ser
 165 170 175
 acc ccc gtc tcc ata aaa caa tac ccc atq tca caa gaa gcc aga ctg 576
 5 Thr Iro Val Ser Ile Lys Gln Tyr Pro Met Ser Gln Glu Ala Arg Leu
 180 185 190
 ggg atc aag ccc cac ata cag aga ctg ttg gac cag gga ata ctg gta 624
 Gly Ile Lys Pro His Ile Gln Arg Leu Leu Asp Gln Gly Ile Leu Val
 195 200 205
 10 ccc tgc cag tcc ccc tgg aac acg ccc ctg cta ccc qtt aag aaa cca 672
 Pro Cys Gln Ser Pro Trp Asn Thr Pro Leu Leu Pro Val Lys Lys Pro
 210 215 220
 ggg act aat gat tat agq cct gtc cag gat ctg aga gaa gtc aac aag 720
 Gly Thr Asn Asp Tyr Arg Pro Val Gln Asp Leu Arg Glu Val Asn Lys
 15 225 230 235 240
 egg gtg gaa gac atc cac ccc acc gtg ccc aac cct tac aac ctc ttg 768
 Arg Val Glu Asp Ile His Pro Thr Val Pro Asn Pro Tyr Asn Leu Leu
 245 250 255
 20 agc ggg ctc cca ccg tcc cac cag tgg tac act gtg ctt gat tta aag 816
 Ser Gly Leu Pro Pro Ser His Gln Trp Tyr Thr Val Leu Asp Leu Lys
 260 265 270
 gat gcc ttt ttc tgc ctg aqa ctc cac ccc acc agt cag cct ctc ttc 864
 Asp Ala Phe Phe Cys Leu Arg Leu His Pro Thr Ser Gln Pro Leu Phe
 275 280 285
 25 gcc ttt gag tgg aga gat cca gag atg gga atc tca gga caa ttg acc 912
 Ala Phe Glu Trp Arg Asp Pro Glu Met Gl, Ile Phe Gly Gln Leu Thr
 290 295 300
 tgg acc aga ctc cca cag ggt ttc aaa aac agt ccc acc ctg ttt gat 960
 Trp Thr Arg Leu Pro Gln Gly Phe Lys Asn Ser Pro Thr Leu Phe Asp
 30 305 310 315 320
 gag gca ctg cac aqa gac cta gca gac ttc egg atc cag cac cca gac 1008
 Glu Ala Leu His Arg Asp Leu Ala Asp Phe Arg Ile Gln His Pro Asp
 325 330 335

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ttt atc ctg cta cag tac qtq gat gac tta ctg ctg gcc qcc act tct Leu Ile Leu Gln Tyr Val Asp Asp Leu Leu Leu Ala Ala Thr Ser	340	345	350
5 gat ctu gac tgc caa caa ggt act cgg gcc ctq tta caa acc cta ggg Glu Leu Asp Cys Gln Gln Gly Thr Arg Ala Leu Leu Gln Thr Leu Gly	355	360	365
aac ctc ggg tat cgg gcc tcc gcc aag aaa gcc caa att tgc cag aaa Asn Leu Gly Tyr Arg Ala Ser Ala Lys Lys Ala Gln Ile Cys Gln Lys	370	375	380
10 cag gtc aag tat ctg ggg tat ctt cta aaa gag ggt cag aga tgg ctg Gln Val Lys Tyr Leu Gly Tyr Leu Leu Lys Glu Gly Gin Arg Trp Leu	385	390	395
act gag gcc aga aaa gag act gtg atg ggg cag cct act ccg aag acc Thr Glu Ala Arg Lys Glu Thr Val Met Gly Gln Pro Thr Pro Lys Thr	405	410	415
15 1248 cct cga caa cta agg gag ttc cta ggg acg gca ggc ttc tgt cgc ctc Pro Arg Gln Leu Arg Glu Phe Leu Gly Thr Ala Gly Phe Cys Arg Leu	420	425	430
tgg atc cct ggg ttt gca gaa atg qca gcc ccc ttg tac cct ctc acc Trp Ile Pro Gly Phe Ala Glu Met Ala Ala Pro Leu Tyr Pro Leu Thr	435	440	445
20 1296 aaa acg qgg act ctg ttt aat tgg ggc cca gac caa caa aag gcc tat Lys Thr Gly Thr Leu Phe Asn Trp Gly Pro Asp Gln Gln Lys Ala Tyr	450	455	460
25 1392 caa gaa atc aag caa gct ctt cta act gcc cca gcc ctg ggg ttg cca Gin Gln Ile Lys Gln Ala Leu Leu Thr Ala Pro Ala Leu Gly Leu Pro	465	470	475
30 1440 gat ttg act aag ccc ttt gaa ctc ttt gtc gac gag aag cag ggc tac Asp Leu Thr Lys Pro Phe Glu Leu Phe Val Asp Glu Lys Gln Gly Tyr	485	490	495
35 1488 gcc aaa ggt gtc cta acg caa aaa ctg gga cct ttg cgt cgg ccg gtg Ala Lys Gly Val Leu Thr Gln Lys Leu Gly Pro Trp Arg Arg Pro Val	500	505	510

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 Ala Tyr Leu Ser Lys Lys Leu Asp Pro Val Ala Ala Gly Trp Pro Pro
 515 520 525
 5 Cys Leu Arg Met Val Ala Ala Ile Ala Val Thr Lys Asp Ala Gly 1630
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 Lys Leu Thr Met Gly Gln Pro Leu Val Ile Leu Ala Pro His Ala Val
 545 550 555 560
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 Glu Ala Leu Val Lys Gln Pro Pro Asp Arg Trp Leu Ser Asn Ala Arg
 565 570 575
 atg act ccc tat cag gcc ttg ctt ttg gac acg gac cgg gtc cag ttc 1776
 Met Thr His Tyr Gln Ala Leu Leu Leu Asp Thr Asp Arg Val Gln Phe
 15 580 585 590
 gga ccg gtg gta gcc ctg aac ccg gct acq ctg ctc cca ctg cct gag 1824
 Gly Pro Val Val Ala Leu Asn Pro Ala Thr Leu Leu Pro Leu Pro Glu
 595 600 605
 20 gaa ggg ctg caa cac aac tgc ctt qat atc ctg gcc gaa gcc cac gga 1872
 Glu Gly Leu Gln His Asn Cys Leu Asp Ile Leu Ala Glu Ala His Gly
 610 615 620
 acc cga ccc gac cta acg gac cag ccg ctc cca gac gac cac acc 1920
 Thr Arg Pro Asp Leu Thr Asp Gln Pro Leu Pro Asp Ala Asp His Thr
 625 630 635 640
 25 tgg tac acg gat gga aqc aqt ctc tta caa gag gga cag cgt aag gcg 1968
 Trp Tyr Thr Asp Gly Ser Ser Leu Leu Gln Glu Gly Gln Arg Lys Ala
 645 650 655
 gqa qct gcg gtg acc acc gag acc gag gta atc tgg gct aaa gcc ctg 2016
 Gly Ala Ala Val Thr Thr Glu Thr Glu Val Ile Trp Ala Lys Ala Leu
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 Pro Ala Gly Thr Ser Ala Gln Arg Ala Glu Leu Ile Ala Leu Thr Gln
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 Ala Leu Lys Met Ala Glu Gly Lys Lys Leu Asn Val Tyr Thr Asp Ser
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	atc ctc act ccc tac tcc atg ctg aac cgg gat cga aca ctc aaa ant	865	870	875	880	2640
	Ser His Ser Pro Tyr Tyr Met Leu Asn Arg Asp Arg Thr Leu Lys Asn					
5	atc act gag aac tgc aac gct tct gca caa gtc aac gcc agc aag tct	885	890	895		2688
	Ile Thr Glu Thr Cys Lys Ala Cys Ala Gln Val Asn Ala Ser Lys Ser					
10	gcc gtt aaa caa cgg gga aat agg gtc cgc ggg cat cgg ccc ggc act cat	900	905	910		2736
	Ala Val Lys Gln Gly Thr Arg Val Arg Gly His Arg Pro Gly Thr His					
15	tgg gag atc gat ttc acc gag ata aag ccc gga ttg tat ggc tat aat	915	920	925		2784
	Trp Glu Ile Asp Phe Thr Glu Ile Lys Pro Gly Leu Tyr Gly Tyr Lys					
20	tat ctt cta gtt ttt ata gat acc ttt tct ggc tgg ata gaa gcc ttc	930	935	940		2832
	Tyr Leu Leu Val Phe Ile Asp Thr Phe Ser Gly Trp Ile Glu Ala Phe					
25	cca acc aag aaa qaa acc gcc aag gtc gta acc aag aag cta cta gag	945	950	955	960	2880
	Pro Thr Lys Lys Glu Thr Ala Lys Val Val Thr Lys Lys Leu Leu Glu					
30	gag atc ttc ccc agg ttc ggc atg cct cag gta ttg gga act gac aat	965	970	975		2928
	Glu Ile Phe Pro Arg Phe Gly Met Pro Gln Val Leu Gly Thr Asp Asn					
	ggg cct gcc ttc gtc tcc aag gtq agt cag aca gtg gcc gat ctg ttq	980	985	990		2976
	Gly Pro Ala Phe Val Ser Lys Val Gln Thr Val Ala Asp Leu Leu					
35	ggg att gat tgg aaa tta cat tgt gca tac aga ccc caa agc tca ggc	995	1000	1005		3024
	Gly Ile Asp Trp Lys Leu His Cys Ala Tyr Pro Pro Gln Ser Ser Gly					
40	caq gta gaa aga atg aat aga acc atc aag gag act tta act aaa tta	1010	1015	1020		3072
	Gln Val Glu Arg Met Asn Arg Thr Ile Lys Glu Thr Leu Thr Lys Leu					
	acg ctt gca act ggc tct aga gac tgg gtg ctc cta ctc ccc tta gcc	1025	1030	1035	1040	3120
	Thr Leu Ala Thr Gly Ser Arg Asp Trp Val Leu Leu Leu Pro Leu Ala					

stg tac tga ggc cgc aac aca ccc ggc ccc cat ggc ctc acc cca tat 3162
 Leu Tyr Arg Ala Arg Asn Thr Pro Gly Pro His Gly Leu Thr Pro Tyr
 1045 1050 1055

 5 gag atc tta tat ggu gca ccc ccg ccc ctt gta aac itc cct gac cct 3247
 Glu lle Leu Tyr Gly Ala Pro Pro Ieu Val Asn Phe Pro Asp Pro
 1060 1065 1070

 gac atg aca aga gtt act aac agc ccc tct ctc caa gct cac tta cag 3264
 Asp Met Thr Arg Val Thr Asn Ser Pro Ser Leu Gln Ala His Leu Gln
 1075 1080 1085

 10 get ctc tac tta gtc cag cac gaa gtc tgg aga cct ctg ggc gca gcc 3312
 Ala Leu Tyr Leu Val Gln His Glu Val Trp Arg Pro Leu Ala Ala Ala
 1090 1095 1100

 15 tac caa qaa caa ctg gac cga ccg gtg gta cct cac cct tac cga gtc 3360
 Tyr Gln Glu Gln Leu Asp Arg Pro Val Val Pro His Pro Tyr Arg Val
 1105 1110 1115 1120

 ggc gac aca gtg tgg gtc cgc cga cac cag act aag aac cta gaa cct 3408
 Gly Asp Thr Val Trp Val Arg Arg His Gln Thr Lys Asn Leu Glu Pro
 1125 1130 1135

 20 cgc tgg aaa gga cct tac aca gtc ctg ctg acc acc ccc acc gcc ctc 3456
 Arg Trp Lys Gly Pro Tyr Thr Val Leu Leu Thr Thr Pro Thr Ala Leu
 1140 1145 1150

 aaa gta gac ggc atc gca gct tgg ata cac gcc gcc cac gtg aag gct 3504
 Lys Val Asp Gly Ile Ala Ala His Ala His Val Lys Ala
 1155 1160 1165

 25 gcc gag ccc ggg qgt gga cca tcc tct aga ctg aca tgg cgc gtt caa 3552
 Ala Asp Pro Gly Gly Gl Ser Ser Arg Leu Thr Trp Arg Val Gln
 1170 1175 1180

 30 cgc tct caa aac ccc tta aad ata agg tta acc cgc gag gcc ccc 3597
 Arg Ser Gln Asn Pro Leu Lys Ile Arg Leu Thr Arg Glu Ala Pro
 1185 1190 1195

 taatccccttt aatttttttg atqgtcagag gggtcagtg tggtttc 3643

<211> P14e

<212> PRT

<213> Murine leukemia virus

<400> 41

5 Gly Gly Gln Gly Glu Pro Pro Pro Glu Pro Arg Ile Thr Leu Lys
1 5 10 15

Val Gly Gln Pro Val Thr Phe Leu Val Asp Thr Gly Ala Gln His
20 25 30

Ser Val Leu Thr Gln Asn Pro Gly Pro Leu Ser Asp Lys Ser Ala Trp
10 35 40 45

Val Gln Gly Ala Thr Gly Gly Lys Arg Tyr Arg Trp Thr Thr Asp Arg
50 55 60

Lys Val His Leu Ala Thr Gly Lys Val Thr His Ser Phe Leu His Val
65 70 75 80

15 Pro Asp Cys Pro Tyr Pro Leu Leu Gly Arg Asp Leu Leu Thr Lys Leu
65 90 95

Lys Ala Gln Ile His Phe Glu Gly Ser Gly Ala Gln Val Met Gly Pro
100 105 110

Met Gly Gln Pro Leu Gln Val Leu Thr Leu Asn Ile Glu Asp Glu His
20 115 120 125

Arg Leu His Glu Thr Ser Lys Glu Pro Asp Val Ser Leu Gly Ser Thr
130 135 140

Trp Leu Ser Asp Phe Pro Gln Ala Trp Ala Glu Thr Gly Gly Met Gly
145 150 155 160

25 Leu Ala Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Leu Ile Ile Pro Leu Lys Ala Thr Ser
165 170 175

Thr Pro Val Ser Ile Lys Gln Tyr Pro Met Ser Gln Glu Ala Arg Leu
180 185 190

Gly Ile Lys Pro His Ile Gln Arg Leu Leu Asp Gln Gly Ile Leu Val
30 195 200 205

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	Pro	Gly	Gln	Ser	Pro	Trp	Asn	Thr	Pro	Leu	Leu	Pro	Val	Lys	Iys	Pro
	210								215					220		
	Q	P	R	T	N	A	V	I	Y	W	Y	W	A	G	D	N
	225								230					235		
5	A	R	Q	V	I	L	E	H	P	O	T	R	H	A	S	N
	240									245					250	
	S	E	R	T	C	L	Y	I	F	R	S	H	G	L	N	T
	255									260					265	
10	A	s	p	a	l	a	l	a	g	l	a	g	l	a	l	e
	270									275					280	
	A	s	p	a	l	a	l	a	g	l	a	g	l	a	l	e
	285									290					295	
	A	l	a	l	h	o	l	l	g	l	l	g	l	l	l	h
	300								305					310		
15	T	r	p	h	g	t	g	l	g	l	g	l	g	l	g	l
	315								320					325		
	G	l	u	l	u	h	i	s	a	g	l	u	h	i	g	l
	330								335					340		
	L	e	u	l	u	g	l	y	t	v	a	s	l	u	l	u
	345								350					355		
20	G	l	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u
	360									365					370	
	G	l	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u
	375									380					385	
	A	s	n	l	l	l	l	l	l	l	l	l	l	l	l	l
	390								395					400		
25	G	l	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u
	405									410					415	
	P	o	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u
	420									425					430	
	T	r	p	o	g	y	p	h	e	l	u	g	l	y	p	h
	435								440					445		
30	T	r	p	o	g	y	p	h	e	l	u	g	l	y	p	h

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Lys Thr Gly Thr Ieu Phe Asn Trp Gly Pro Asp Gln Gln Lys Ala Tyr
450 455 460
Gin Glu Ile Lys Gin Ala Leu Leu Thr Ala Pro Ala Leu Gly Leu Pro
465 470 475 480
5 Asp Leu Thr Lys Pro Phe Glu Leu Phe Val Asp Glu Lys Gln Gly Tyr
485 490 495
Ala Lys Gly Val Leu Thr Gln Lys Leu Gly Pro Trp Arg Arg Pro Val
500 505 510
Ala Tyr Leu Ser Lys Lys Leu Asp Pro Val Ala Ala Gly Trp Pro Pro
10 515 520 525
Cys Leu Arg Met Val Ala Ala Ile Ala Val Leu Thr Lys Asp Ala Gly
530 535 540
Lys Leu Thr Met Gly Gln Pro Leu Val Ile Leu Ala Pro His Ala Val
545 550 555 560
15 Glu Ala Leu Val Lys Gln Pro Pro Asp Arg Trp Leu Ser Asn Ala Arg
565 570 575
Met Thr His Tyr Gln Ala Leu Leu Leu Asp Thr Asp Arg Val Gln Phe
580 585 590
Gly Pro Val Val Ala Leu Asn Pro Ala Thr Leu Leu Pro Leu Pro Glu
20 595 600 605
Glu Gly Leu Gln His Asn Cys Leu Asp Ile Leu Ala Glu Ala His Gly
610 615 620
Thr Arg Pro Asp Leu Thr Asp Gln Pro Leu Pro Asp Ala Asp His Thr
625 630 635 640
25 Trp Tyr Thr Asp Gly Ser Ser Leu Leu Gln Glu Gly Gln Arg Lys Ala
645 650 655
Gly Ala Ala Val Thr Thr Gln Thr Glu Val Ile Trp Ala Lys Ala Leu
660 665 670
Pro Ala Gly Thr Ser Ala Gln Arg Ala Glu Leu Ile Ala Leu Thr Gln
30 675 680 685

	Ala Ieu Lys Met Ala Glu Gly Lys Lys Leu Asn Val Tyr Thr Asp Ser			
	690	695	700	
	Arg Tyr Ala Phe Ala Thr Ala His Ile His Gly Glu Ile Tyr Arg Arg			
	705	710	715	720
5	Arg Gly Leu Leu Thr Ser Glu Gly Lys Glu Ile Lys Asn Lys Asp Glu			
	725	730	735	
	Ile Leu Ala Leu Leu Lys Ala Leu Phe Leu Pro Lys Arg Leu Ser Ile			
	740	745	750	
	Ile His Cys Pro Gly His Gln Lys Gly His Ser Ala Glu Ala Arg Gly			
10	755	760	765	
	Asn Arg Met Ala Asp Gin Ala Ala Arg Lys Ala Ala Ile Thr Glu Thr			
	770	775	780	
	Pro Asp Thr Ser Thr Leu Leu Ile Glu Asn Ser Ser Pro Tyr Thr Ser			
	785	790	795	800
15	Glu His Phe His Tyr Thr Val Thr Asp Ile Lys Asp Leu Thr Lys Leu			
	805	810	815	
	Gly Ala Ile Tyr Asp Lys Thr Lys Lys Tyr Trp Val Tyr Gln Gly Lys			
	820	825	830	
	Pro Val Met Pro Asp Gln Phe Thr Phe Glu Leu Leu Asp Phe Leu His			
20	835	840	845	
	Gln Leu Thr His Leu Ser Phe Ser Lys Met Lys Ala Leu Leu Glu Arg			
	850	855	860	
	Ser His Ser Ile Tyr Tyr Met Leu Asn Arg Asn Arg Thr Ile Lys Asn			
	865	870	875	880
25	Ile Thr Glu Thr Cys Lys Ala Cys Ala Gln Val Asn Ala Ser Lys Ser			
	885	890	895	
	Ala Val Lys Gln Gly Thr Arg Val Arg Gly His Arg Pro Gly Thr His			
	900	905	910	
	Trp Glu Ile Asp Phe Thr Glu Ile Lys Pro Gly Leu Tyr Gly Tyr Lys			
30	915	920	925	

Tyr Leu Ile Val Phe Ile Asp Thr Phe Ser Gly Trp Ile Glu Ala Phe
 630 615 940
 Lys Thr Ile Lys Glu Thr Ala Lys Val Val Thr Lys Lys Ile Leu Glu
 945 950 955 960
 5 Glu Ile Phe Pro Arg Phe Gly Met Pro Gln Val Leu Gly Thr Asp Asn
 965 970 975
 Gly Pro Ala Phe Val Ser Lys Val Ser Gln Thr Val Ala Asp Leu Leu
 980 985 990
 Gly Ile Asp Trp Lys Leu His Cys Ala Tyr Arg Pro Gln Ser Ser Gly
 10 995 1000 1005
 Gln Val Glu Arg Met Asn Arg Thr Ile Lys Glu Thr Leu Thr Lys Leu
 1010 1015 1020
 Thr Leu Ala Thr Gly Ser Arg Asp Trp Val Leu Leu Leu Pro Leu Ala
 1025 1030 1035 1040
 15 Leu Tyr Arg Ala Arg Asn Thr Pro Gly Pro His Gly Leu Thr Pro Tyr
 1045 1050 1055
 Glu Ile Leu Tyr Gly Ala Pro Pro Pro Leu Val Asn Phe Pro Asp Pro
 1060 1065 1070
 Asp Met Thr Arg Val Thr Asn Ser Pro Ser Leu Gln Ala His Leu Gln
 20 1075 1080 1085
 Ala Leu Tyr Leu Val Gin His Glu Val Trp Arg Pro Leu Ala Ala Ala
 1090 1095 1100
 Tyr Gln Gln Gln Leu Asp Arg Pro Val Val Pro His Pro Tyr Arg Val
 1105 1110 1115 1120
 25 Gly Asp Thr Val Trp Val Arg Arg His Gln Thr Lys Asn Leu Glu Pro
 1125 1130 1135
 Arg Trp Lys Gly Pro Tyr Thr Val Leu Leu Thr Thr Pro Thr Ala Leu
 1140 1145 1150
 Lys Val Asp Gly Ile Ala Ala Trp Ile His Ala Ala His Val Lys Ala
 30 1155 1160 1165

Ala Asp Pro Gly Gly Gly Pro Ser Ser Arg Leu Thr Trp Arg Val Gln
 1170 1175 1180

Asp Ile Glu Asn Pro Leu Lys Ile Arg Leu Thr Arg Gln Ala Pro
 1185 1190 1195

5 1170-42

6 2709

7 DNA

8 Human immunodeficiency virus type 1

9 CDS

10 P11-CDS
 1170-(1)...(2709)

11 1170-42
 12 atq atg ggg gqa att gga ggt ttt atc aaa gta aga cag tat gat cag 48
 Met Ile Gly Gly Ile Gly Gly Phe Ile Lys Val Arg Gln Tyr Asp Gln
 13 1 5 10 15

14 atu atc atu gaa atc tgg cat aaa gct ata ggt aca gta tta gta 96
 15 Ile Leu Ile Glu Ile Cys Gly His Lys Ala Ile Gly Thr Val Leu Val
 16 20 25 30

17 qpa act aca cct gtc aac ata att gga aga aat ctg ttg act cag att 144
 18 gyp met Thr Pro Val Asn Ile Ile Gly Arg Asn Leu Leu Thr Gln Ile
 19 35 40 45

20 amt tgg act tta aat ttt ccc att agt cct att gaa act gta cca gta 192
 21 Gly Thr Leu Asn Phe Pro Ile Ser Pro Ile Glu Thr Val Pro Val
 22 50 55 60

23 ccc tta aac gga atg gtc ggc tca aaa gtt aac cca tgg cca ttg 240
 24 Lys Leu Lys Pro Gly Met Asp Gly Pro Lys Val Lys Gln Trp Pro Leu
 25 70 75 80

26 aac taa gaa aac atg aac gca tta gta gaa att tgg aca gaa atg gaa 288
 27 Thr Glu Glu Lys Ile Lys Ala Leu Val Glu Ile Cys Thr Glu Met Glu
 28 85 90 95

29 aag gaa ggg aac att tca aaa att ggg cct gaa aat cca tac aat act 336
 30 Lys Glu Gly Lys Ile Ser Lys Ile Gly Pro Glu Asn Pro Tyr Asn Thr
 31 100 105 110

cca gta ttt gcc ata aag aaa aaa gat agt act aaa tgg aga aaa tia 584
 Pro Val Phe Ala Ile Lys Lys Lys Asp Ser Thr Lys Trp Arg Lys Leu
 115 120 125
 gta gat ttc aga gaa ctt aat aag aga act cca gac ttc tgg gaa gti 432
 5 Val Asp Phe Arg Glu Leu Asn Lys Arg Thr Gln Asp Phe Trp Glu Val
 130 135 140
 cca tta gga ata cca cat ccc gca ggg tta aaa aag aaa aaa tca gta 480
 Gln Leu Gly Ile Pro His Pro Ala Gly Leu Lys Lys Lys Ser Val
 145 150 155 160
 10 aca gta ctg gat gtg ggt gat gca tat ttt tca gtt ccc tta gat gaa 528
 Thr Val Leu Asp Val Gly Asp Ala Tyr Phe Ser Val Pro Leu Asp Glu
 165 170 175
 gac ttc agg aag tat act gca ttt acc ata cct agt ata aac aat gag 576
 Asp Phe Arg Lys Tyr Thr Ala Phe Thr Pro Ser Ile Asn Asn Glu
 15 180 185 190
 aca cca ggg att aga tat cag tac aat gtg ctt cca cag gga tgg aaa 624
 Thr Pro Gly Ile Arg Tyr Gln Tyr Asn Val Leu Pro Gln Gly Trp Lys
 195 200 205
 gga tca cca gca ata ttc caa agt agc atg aca aaa atc tta gag cct 672
 20 Gly Ser Pro Ala Ile Phe Gln Ser Ser Met Thr Lys Ile Leu Glu Pro
 210 215 220
 ttt aqa aaa caa aat cca gac ata gtt atc tat caa tac atg gat gat 720
 Phe Arg Lys Gln Asn Pro Asp Ile Val Ile Tyr Gln Tyr Met Asp Asp
 225 230 235 240
 25 ttg tat gta gga tct gac tta qaa ata ggg cag cat aga aca aaa ata 768
 Leu Tyr Val Gly Ser Asp Ile Glu Ile Gly Glu His Arg Thr Lys Ile
 245 250 255
 gag gag ctg aga cca cat ctg ttg agg tgg gga ctt acc aca cca gac 816
 Glu Glu Leu Arg Gln His Leu Leu Arg Trp Gly Leu Thr Thr Pro Asp
 30 260 265 270
 aaa aaa cat cag aaa gaa cct cca ttc ctt tgg atg ggt tat gaa ctc 864
 Lys Lys His Gin Lys Glu Pro Pro Phe Leu Trp Met Gly Tyr Glu Leu
 275 280 285

cat cat gat ada tgg aca gta cag cct ata gtg ctg cca gaa aaa aca 812
 His Pro Asp Lys Trp Thr Val Gln Pro Ile Val Leu Pro Glu Lys Asp
 280 295 300
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 5 Ser Thr Val Asn Asp Ile Gln Lys Leu Val Gly Lys Leu Asn Trp
 305 310 315 320
 gca agt cag att tac cca ggg att aaa gta agg caa tta tgt aaa ctc 1003
 Ala Ser Gin Ile Tyr Pro Gly Ile Lys Val Arg Gln Leu Cys Lys Leu
 325 330 335
 10 ctt aga gga acc aaa gca cta aca gaa gta ata cca cta aca gaa gaa 1056
 Leu Arg Gly Thr Lys Ala Ieu Thr Glu Val Ile Pro Leu Thr Glu Glu
 340 345 350
 gca gag cta gaa ctg gca gaa aac aga gag att cta aac gaa cca gta 1104
 Ala Glu Leu Glu Leu Ala Glu Asn Arg Glu Ile Leu Lys Glu Pro Val
 15 355 360 365
 cat gga gtg tat tat gac cca tca aaa gac tta ata gca gaa ata cag 1152
 His Gly Val Tyr Tyr Asp Pro Ser Lys Asp Leu Ile Ala Glu Ile Gln
 370 375 380
 aag cag ggg caa ggc caa tgg aca tat caa att tat caa gag cca ttt 1200
 20 Lys Gln Gly Gln Gly Gln Trp Thr Tyr Gln Ile Tyr Gln Glu Pro Phe
 385 390 395 400
 aac aat ctg aaa aca gga aaa tat gca aqa acq agg ggt gcc cac act 1248
 Lys Asn Leu Lys Thr Gly Lys Tyr Ala Arg Thr Arg Gly Ala His Thr
 405 410 415
 25 aat gat gta aaa caa tta aca gag gca gtg caa aca ata acc aca gaa 1296
 Asn Asp Val Lys Cln Leu Thr Glu Ala Val Gln Ile Thr Thr Glu
 420 425 430
 aqc ata gta ata tgg gga aag act cct aaa ttt aaa cta ccc ata caa 1344
 Ser Ile Val Ile Trp Gly Lys Thr Pro Lys Phe Lys Leu Pro Ile Gln
 30 435 440 445
 aag gaa aca tgg gaa aca tgg tgg aca gag tat tgg caa gcc acc tgg 1392
 Lys Glu Thr Trp Glu Thr Trp Trp Thr Glu Tyr Trp Gln Ala Thr Trp
 450 455 460

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att cat gag tgg daq ttt gtc aat acc ccc cct cct tta gtg aaa tta tgg 1440
 lle phe Glu Trp Glu Phe Val Asn Thr Pro Pro Ile Val Val Ile Leu Trp
 465. 470 475 480

 ta daa tta gtg aaa gaa ccc ata gta gga gca gaa acg ttc tat gta 1488
 5 Tyr Glu Leu Glu Lys Glu Pro Ile Val Gly Ala Glu Thr Phe Tyr Val
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 dat ggg daa gct acg agg gag act aaa tta gga aaa gca gga tat gtt 1536
 Arg Gly Ala Ala Ser Arg Glu Thr Lys Leu Gly Lys Ala Gly Tyr Val
 500 505 510

 10 act aat aqq gqa aga caa aaa gtt gtc acc cta act gac aca aca aat 1584
 Thr Asn Arg Gly Arg Gln Lys Val Val Thr Leu Thr Asp Thr Thr Asn
 515 520 525

 caq daq act gag tta caa gca att cat cta gct ttg cag gat tcg gga 1632
 Glu Lys Thr Glu Leu Glu Ala Ile His Leu Ala Leu Glu Asp Ser Gly
 15 530 535 540

 tta qua gta dat ata gta aca gac tca caa tat gca tta gga atc att 1680
 Leu Glu Val Asn Ile Val Thr Asp Ser Gln Tyr Ala Leu Gly Ile Ile
 545 550 555 560

 caa gca caa cca gat aaa agt gaa tca gag tta gtc aat caa ata ata 1728
 20 Gin Ala Glu Pro Asp Lys Ser Glu Ser Glu Leu Val Asn Gln Ile Ile
 565 570 575

 aag cag tta ata aaa aag gaa aag gtc tat ctg gca tgg qta cca gca 1776
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 580 585 590

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- 89 -

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gttgtt

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

National Application No
PCT/US 00/00896A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C12N15/54 C12N9/12

C12N15/70 C12N15/85 C12Q1/68

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 C12N C12Q

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>OUILLENT, CAROLINE ET AL: "Extensive regions of pol are required for efficient human immunodeficient virus polyprotein processing and particle maturation" VIROLOGY (1996), 219(1), 29-36 ,1996, XP000608777</p> <p>abstract</p> <p>page 30, right-hand column, last paragraph</p> <p>-page 36, left-hand column, paragraph 1</p> <p>---</p> <p>-/-</p>	1-33

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

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C(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>NAOKO TANESE ET AL.: "Structural requirements for bacterial expression of stable, enzymatically active fusion proteins containing the human immunodeficiency virus reverse transcriptase" DNA, vol. 7, no. 6, 1988, pages 407-416, XP002137205</p> <p>page 408, right-hand column, last paragraph -page 409, right-hand column, paragraph 1</p> <p>page 410, left-hand column, paragraph 2 -right-hand column, paragraph 1</p> <p>page 411, left-hand column, paragraph 2 -page 414, right-hand column, paragraph 2</p> <p>-----</p>	1-33
A	<p>US 5 668 005 A (MICHAEL LESLIE KOTEWICZ ET AL.) 16 September 1997 (1997-09-16)</p> <p>cited in the application</p> <p>column 2, line 51 -column 8, line 39</p> <p>column 10, line 56 -column 12, line 24</p> <p>column 16, line 31 -column 18, line 2</p> <p>-----</p>	1-33
A	<p>JP 07 039378 A (TAKARA SHUZO CO. LTD.) 10 February 1995 (1995-02-10)</p> <p>page 6 -page 11</p> <p>-----</p>	1-33

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No
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JP 7039378 A	10-02-1995	NONE	

